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# Harding

FALL  
2004

## Breaking ground:

Education center and  
Eagle's Wings  
Campaign begin

For Kenyan  
runners, the  
race is on

Symposium  
challenges high  
school scholars

Self-study  
strives for  
top marks

Setting the  
stage for  
commencement

v. 12

# 3

Fall 04

Harding University Library



# The aroma of Christ

By DAVID B. BURKS



PAUL ANNOUNCES IN 2 CORINTHIANS 2:15 THAT WE ARE the "aroma of Christ" to the world. An aroma spreads by diffusion, penetrating every space within its range of influence, and is absorbed by those with whom it comes in contact. To effectively be Christ's aroma, we must be deliberate in our interactions within our spheres of influence.

I began meeting with a selected group of church leaders in December 2003 to address the challenges we face in the church relative to ministry preparation and evangelism, the vast preacher shortage in churches, and the serious lack of growth in membership in the last 20 years.

From those meetings we have developed an exciting list of ways the University can work on these issues. Among items on the list are plans to purposefully select ministry students, improve Bible scholarships, find ways to better reach out to our racially diverse brotherhood, and further develop a comprehensive plan among campus groups to implement the University's spiritual mission.

Thus, we have chosen "The Aroma of Christ" as our theme for this school year to emphasize ministry and evangelism.

As we seek to accomplish the above goals and spread his essence, the University continues in its mission of service while preparing for the future. The most ambitious fund-raising endeavor ever, The Eagles Wings Campaign, has begun with a target of \$135 million.

That goal however, is not just about money. It is about the University's commitment to integrating faith, learning and living. It is about helping more students become servant-leaders for Christ.

Beginning on Page 12, read how we intend to soar to new heights through the efforts of this campaign. You will also be able to glimpse into the life of Wilma Thornton, a Harding Place resident for whom we will name the new education center. Her remarkable spirit and shining example of the aroma of Christ in Arkansas' public schools are qualities we hope our students will desire and emulate as educators or in any field of study.

Please join us in our mission and in prayer as we seek to develop Christian servants to be the "fragrance of life" to a world desperately in need of the Lord. H

*David B. Burks*

# Harding

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## ON THE COVER

Former educator Wilma Stephens Thornton, for whom the University's new education center will be named, taught in Arkansas' schools for more than 40 years. Photo by Jeff Montgomery.



What is it? As part of a two-day Passover experience, Honors Symposium students raise their hands and create a target for the approaching plane to deliver "manna" — the food God fed to the Israelites during their years in the wilderness. The pilot, Daniel Cossey, of Searcy, is a C-130 Drop Specialist in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. (Page 16)



## FEATURES

### IO Too many Kenyans

Since 1994, runners from Kenya have helped propel the University's track/cross country teams to championships.

### I2 Eagle's Wings Campaign

In our cover story, the most ambitious fund-raiser ever undertaken by the University is going strong, as demonstrated by the groundbreaking of the Wilma Stephens Thornton Education Center.

### I6 Honors Symposium leaps forward through journeys into the past

After 13 years, Honors Symposium has grown into a four-session program through which high school students relive history to understand the present.

### 2I Surpassing the standards

Dr. Larry Long explains how the University is preparing for an accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission in November.

### 22 What's with all the pomp and circumstance?

Crossing the stage is only one small part of the commencement ritual.

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### End note

Dr. Cliff Ganus relates how the Chorus shared God in China, Singapore and Thailand.





# [Around Campus]

## Board of trustees at capacity after addition of members Clary, Wallis

ROGER S. (STEVE) CLARY ('74) of Little Rock, Ark., and W. Mark Wallis ('72) of Littleton, Colo., met as members of the University board of trustees for the first time in October. They were confirmed at the May meeting.

Since 1986, Clary has been the owner and chairman/CEO of Clary Development Corp., located in Little Rock. He is a founding partner in Clary



Steve Clary

Holdings, LLLP and a founding member of Evest Group, LLC. These companies have venture capital in-

vestments in a number of different operations.

In addition, he currently serves as chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer for Tipaz Inc., a Little Rock-based company holding several patents utilizing electron beam technology for the non-burning, on-site destruction of odors, volatile organic compounds and other hazardous pollutants.

He also serves on the board of directors for SkyPort International Inc. and Virtual Application Partners, LLC and on the board of trustees for Central Arkansas Christian School. He holds the bachelor of arts degree in accounting. He and his wife, Cindy ('74), have two daughters.

Wallis is the senior executive vice president of United Dominion Realty Trust (UDR), where he is responsible for acquisitions, dispositions, development, legal administration

and administrative matters.

Prior to joining UDR in April 2001, he was president of Golden Living Communities, a company he founded in 1995 to develop senior housing. Wallis has been involved in the development of eight communities containing

more than 1,200 assisted- and independent-living apartments.

From 1980 to 1995, Wallis was employed by Lincoln Property Co. as executive vice president of finance and administration.

Before joining Lincoln, Wallis served as vice president

of finance for Folsom Investments Inc., a real estate developer, and as an auditor for Alford, Meroney and Co., a regional Dallas CPA firm. He received the bachelor of arts degree in accounting. He and his wife, Susan, have two daughters.



Dr. Burks (third from left) receives building keys from State Farm representatives Marcus Wallace, Mike Hart, Blake Hendrix, Brian Maddox and Mickey Holt.

## New master's program to prepare physician assistants

Scheduled to begin as soon as June 2005, the University will offer Arkansas' first master's-level program to train physician assistants, President David Burks announced in April.

"Harding already has an excellent tradition in health-related programs, including strong programs in nursing, premedicine and other health preprofessional fields," Burks said. "The physician assistant program will complement and enhance these already successful programs."

Physician assistants are highly skilled licensed health professionals who practice medicine with physician supervision. The typical length of a PA program is 26 months and includes one year of intense didactic work and at least one year of clinical rotations in such specialties as family medicine, emergency medicine and psychology.

Dr. Michael Murphy ('77) will lead the program. Murphy, who completed his M.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia, has

held academic appointments at Southern Illinois, University of Illinois, University of Tennessee and Cox Health Systems and has successfully led several residency programs through the accreditation process.

Currently, the program is being housed in a nearby off-campus location, and in November 2005, will move to the third floor of the Science Building addition. The present location was made available through State Farm Insurance, who had a five-year lease on a building located on Beebe-Capps Expressway near the south perimeter of campus. After a recent consolidation, the building was vacated, and State Farm offered it to the University for the duration of the lease. Comprising a large conference/classroom, several offices and a kitchen, the facility has plenty of space for faculty and necessary equipment.

For more information on the PA Program, visit [www.harding.edu/PAprogram](http://www.harding.edu/PAprogram) or call (501) 279-4507.





## NEWSMAKERS

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

**Harold Alexander** has been appointed to full-time director of the Academic Advising Center and assistant to the vice president for academic affairs. In an attempt to help the University achieve its retention goals, Alexander will assist students in finding their best fit among the available academic programs and will work closely with students who are at-risk.

### CAMP TAHKODAH

**Ross Cochran**, associate professor of Bible and religion, is the new director of Camp Tahkodah.

### CAREER CENTER

**Deb Bashaw** was named director of career planning and placement. She previously served in the finance office.

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

#### Communication Department

Dr. **Mike James**, professor and department chair, attended the National Convention of the Broadcast Education Association in Las Vegas in April. He presented a paper as a panelist on the topic "Ready or Not, Here It Comes: Assessment on College Campuses in Media Programs." He also moderated a panel on "Fresh Thinking for Information Technology Across the Curriculum."

James recently submitted a chapter titled "From Mission Statements to Outcomes to Improvement," which will appear in a book titled *Assessing Media Education: A Resource for Educators and Administrators*. The book is scheduled for publication in April 2005.

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Dr. **David Johnson**, professor of finance, presented a paper titled "Traditional Religion and Prospects for Economic Progress: A Case Study of the Religious Beliefs of the Basoga People of Uganda" at the Association of Private Enterprise Education International Convention held in Nassau, Bahamas, April 4-6. The research for the paper included observations and interviews Johnson conducted on study trips to Uganda in the summers of 2000 and 2003. >>

## Organ appointed dean; Elliott selected English chair

DR. DENNIS ORGAN, FORMERLY chair of the English Department, assumed new duties as dean of the College of Arts and Humanities June 1. Dr. Gary Elliott, Organ's predecessor as English Department chair, returned to the position he relinquished to Organ in 1981.

Organ, a professor of English who joined the faculty in



Dr. Dennis Organ

1967, has received the Distinguished Teacher Award twice, in 1977 and 1984. As he has since

1994, he will continue to serve as the executive director of Alpha Chi, the academic honor society, whose national offices are at the University.

His leadership on campus extends to his current position as chair of the Liberal Arts Committee. Past roles in national organizations include regional president of the Conference on Christianity and Literature and board member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

He is a 1966 graduate of the University and holds the master of arts degree from the University of Missouri and the Ph.D. from Texas Tech University.

Organ replaced Dr. Larry Long, who became vice president for academic affairs.

Elliott came to the University in 1967 to teach English and chaired the department from 1973 to 1981, when he left to become academic dean at Columbia Christian College (now Cas-

cade College). After serving as executive vice president and then president of Columbia, Elliott moved to Pepperdine University, where he held the positions of senior development officer and acting assistant vice chancellor. He returned to Harding in 1993 and served as vice president for advancement until 1997,

## Graduate programs fuel growth

A TREMENDOUS INCREASE IN THE number of graduate students brought fall enrollment to a record level for the 18th year.

Undergraduate enrollment remained stable, but a 19 percent increase at the graduate level finds the total figure at 5,602, a 4.5 percent increase over last year's total of 5,360.

Enrollment in Bible-related graduate courses on the Searcy campus nearly doubled, due in part to the new Master of Ministry Program. Business and education graduate offerings in Searcy and at the North Little Rock Professional Center continue to gain in popularity.

The student body represents all 50 states and 47 foreign countries. Included in

at which time he returned to the English Department as a full-time teacher.

A 1962 graduate from the University, he holds the master's degree from North Texas State University and the doctorate degree from Kansas State University. He received a Distinguished Teacher Award in 1980.

the 5,602-student enrollment figure are 195 international students and 128 students at International Program sites.

More than 500 applications already have been received for fall 2005. Of those, 200 have been accepted.

While these numbers are encouraging, the declining number of preachers within the church has reached a critical low. To help counter this trend, the University has developed a theme for the year — "The Aroma of Christ" — to encourage full-time, church-supported ministry and to emphasize every Christian's personal responsibility to further the Gospel. Activities are planned to inform and motivate the student body.

## University advances in rankings

FOR THE 11TH CONSECUTIVE year, *U.S. News & World Report* magazine has listed the University among the South's best. The rankings are in the magazine's 18th annual *America's Best Colleges* issue, which arrived at newsstands Aug. 23.

The report also named Harding one of the "best values" among universities in the South.

This year the University ranked 22nd — compared to 26th last year — among regional universities of the South.

Harding is included in the

Universities-Master's category, which comprises schools that offer a full range of undergraduate and master's programs, but few, if any, doctoral programs. Harding is the highest-ranked Arkansas school in this category.

"We are pleased to be listed among America's best colleges for the 11th consecutive year," says President David Burks. "We are also very pleased to have moved up in the rankings. This is just one more external measurement that affirms the value of the Harding experience."





## Teacher Awards reflect varied areas of expertise

A SOCIAL WORKER, A MUSICIAN, an education specialist and a theater director were this year's recipients of the Distinguished Teacher Awards.

Kim Baker-Abrams, assistant professor of social work; Dr. Scott Carrell, assistant professor of music; Dr. Raymond "Donny" Lee, associate professor of education; and Robin Miller, associate professor of communication, were the 2004 award winners.

Baker-Abrams, a 1994 alumna who holds the bachelor of social work degree, has been a member of the faculty since 1996, the year she received her master's degree in social work from Arizona State University. She serves as admissions coordinator for the Social Work Program and is currently involved in Title IV-E Grant work, an educational grant for training family service workers.

Carrell, who serves as coordinator of piano studies, received the bachelor of arts and bachelor of music degrees from Southwestern University (Texas) in 1987, the master of music degree from the



Dr. Scott Carrell

University of Illinois in 1989, and the doctor of musical arts degree from the University of North Texas in 1999. Carrell has presented piano programs of both classical and jazz works around the country and in Europe. In 1999, the year he began teaching at the University, he co-

founded the Searcy Chamber Music Series.

Lee earned the bachelor of science in education degree from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock in 1982, the master of education degree



Dr. Donny Lee

from the University of Central Arkansas in 1989, and the doctor of education degree from the University of Memphis in 1993. He supervises student teachers and instructs courses in educational psychology, school law, history and philosophy of education, and cultural and social foundations of education.

Miller, who graduated from the University in 1977 with the bachelor of science degree, joined the faculty in 1980. He was awarded the master of arts degree from



Robin Miller

the University of Tennessee in 1980 and the master of fine arts degree from the University of Memphis in 1990. He directs the University's theater program, which is responsible for the annual Homecoming musical and Youth Forum weekend play. Miller also supervises theater majors, who are required to direct and produce one-act plays.

Recipients of the Distinguished Teacher Award are determined by in-class evaluations by students, as well as evaluations from their faculty colleagues.

Each of the four honorees received a \$2,000 check and a framed certificate commemorating the award.

## Mary Lou Daughety: Keeping International Programs afloat

Born and raised in Ontario, Canada, Mary Lou Daughety could not have guessed the foothills of Arkansas nor the romantic city of Florence, Italy, would play such major roles in her life.

Her Harding story began when she met her husband, Larry, while attending Michigan Christian College. A Searcy native, Larry had always wanted to return and raise a family near his home, so in 1969, the young family relocated to White County.

While Larry began working for the University, Mary Lou stayed home with her five children — four sons and one daughter — and then worked part time in various offices on campus. She eventually returned to school and completed her master's degree in education in 1981.

But it was not until 1985, when she was teaching kindergarten, that Dr. Don Shackelford, then director of International Programs, approached Daughety about a position in his office. Nineteen years later, she has watched the one campus in Italy expand to six locations, including Australia, Chile, England, Greece, and a planned program in France (See Page 6).

As the administrative assistant to Dr. Jeffrey Hopper, the current dean of International Programs, she is responsible for making the travel arrangements for each group and obtaining the necessary paperwork to ensure that departures and arrivals go smoothly.

Until 2001, she had never visited any of the campuses, although she had seen hundreds of photos and heard countless stories. That summer, however, a retirement reception was held in Florence for Dr. Shackelford, and she and Larry were able to visit the villa for a week, touring the city's museums and San Gimignano. They then visited the Greece campus, toured Corinth and Delphi, and cruised the Greek islands.

She finds her reaction to the trip difficult to put into words. "When you've been there, you get a feeling that you just can't explain," she says. "But other people who have been to the program know exactly what you are talking about."

For Daughety, the most rewarding part of the job is not only helping students prepare, but also talking to them when they return. "There's a maturity there," she says, explaining how students gain a broader perspective of the world.

"It's an exciting job — period," she says, but explains that challenges do arise, most often related to reassuring parents during times of international conflict. However, she feels that being able to visit the campuses has given her more credibility in alleviating families' concerns.

And she will continue to prepare both students and parents for global experiences. Although Larry has retired, she wants to work a while longer and spend time with her 15 grandchildren. One day perhaps, she will travel again.

"Larry and I have always wanted to take the Canadian railway from the east across to the west coast," she says.

Or maybe she will return to the villa. "Let me get my tooth brush," she says. "And I'll be ready to go."



Mary Lou Daughety



## NEWSMAKERS

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Members of Phi Alpha Omega Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), a national intercollegiate business organization, won awards at the National PBL Competition in Denver July 9-12.

The winners include **Aaron Morris** ('04) of Brentwood, Tenn., who placed second in Accounting II for Professionals; **Lauren Younger** ('04) of Mt. Pleasant, Ark., who placed sixth in Finance; senior accounting major **Brian Ford** of Powell, Ohio, who placed seventh in Economics; senior economics major **Jonathan Guin** of Tuscaloosa, Ala., who placed eighth in Business Law; and **John Rogers** ('04) of Charlotte, N.C., who placed ninth in Marketing.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**Carol Douglass**, assistant professor, successfully defended her dissertation April 22 to receive the Ed.D. in instruction, curriculum and leadership with an emphasis on special education from the University of Memphis. The title of her dissertation was "The Use of Assistive Technology in Early Childhood Inclusive Settings in Central Arkansas Schools."

### COLLEGE OF NURSING

**Jeanie Burt**, assistant professor, was one of the key speakers at the Nurses Research Day at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock, Ark., May 7. The title of her presentation was "Evidence-Based Practice: What, Why and How."

**Jackie Harris**, assistant professor, met certification renewal requirements and attained the Orthopaedic Nurse Certified designation from the Orthopaedic Nurses Certification Board in June.

The Nursing Student Association attended the National Student Nurses' Association convention in Nashville, Tenn., in April. The chapter won the "Platinum Precious Metal Award" for membership and the "Most Successful Breakthrough to Nursing Recruitment Project Award." **Rebecca Clausen** ('04) of Paducah, Ky., **Melissa Edwards** ('04) of Germantown, Tenn., and **Ben McReynolds** ('04) of Monroe, Ga., won the National Leadership University Certificate for their student association involvement. >>

## Medved, Watts, Harvey headline ASI series

TWO RADIO PERSONALITIES and a statesman round out the 2004-05 American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.

Michael Medved, a film critic, best-selling author, and nationally syndicated radio talk show host, will speak Oct. 26. His daily three-hour program, emphasizing the intersection of politics and pop culture, reaches more than 2 million listeners in more than 100 markets coast to coast.

After working as a screenwriter in Hollywood, he reviewed movies for CNN and later served as chief film critic for the *New York Post*. He is the author of eight nonfiction books, including the national best seller *What Really Happened to the Class of '65*. His most influential work was a best-selling indictment of the entertainment industry, *Hollywood vs. America*. His columns on media and society appear regularly in *USA Today*.

Athlete, statesman and minister, J.C. Watts is a community leader whose concerns encompass the globe — from AIDS relief in Africa to hometown issues in his native Oklahoma. He will speak Feb. 24. During eight years in Congress, he served as chairman of the House Republican Conference and on the House Armed Services Committee. Watts also authored legislation to create the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, on which he later served.

A star quarterback, Watts led the University of Oklahoma to two Orange Bowl victories and was twice named Most Valuable Player.

Watts is chairman of J.C. Watts Cos., which provide services in communication, busi-

ness and public affairs. He co-founded and co-chairs the Coalition for AIDS Relief in Africa and created the J.C. Watts Foundation to focus on urban renewal and other charitable initiatives.

Paul Harvey, who will speak April 21, began his radio career in 1933 at KVOO-AM, Tulsa, Okla., while he was still in high school. In 1951 he began his coast-to-coast "News and Comment" on the ABC Radio Networks. In 1976 Harvey started another series of programs on the ABC Radio Networks titled "The Rest of the Story," which delve into the forgotten or little-known facts behind stories of famous people and events.

Today, Paul Harvey "News and Comment" and "The Rest of the Story" can be heard every Monday through Saturday. Paul Harvey News is the largest one-man network in the world.

Author and historian David Barton initiated this year's Distinguished Lecture Series Sept. 21. All presentations begin at 7:30 p.m. in Benson Auditorium and are co-sponsored by the Young America's Foundation.

## Graduate School Alumna Award honors Oxford

KNOWN FOR HER COMPASSION and care, Linda Oxford ('81) of Memphis, Tenn., received the Alumna of the Year Award at the Graduate School of Religion's Ministry Forum April 8.



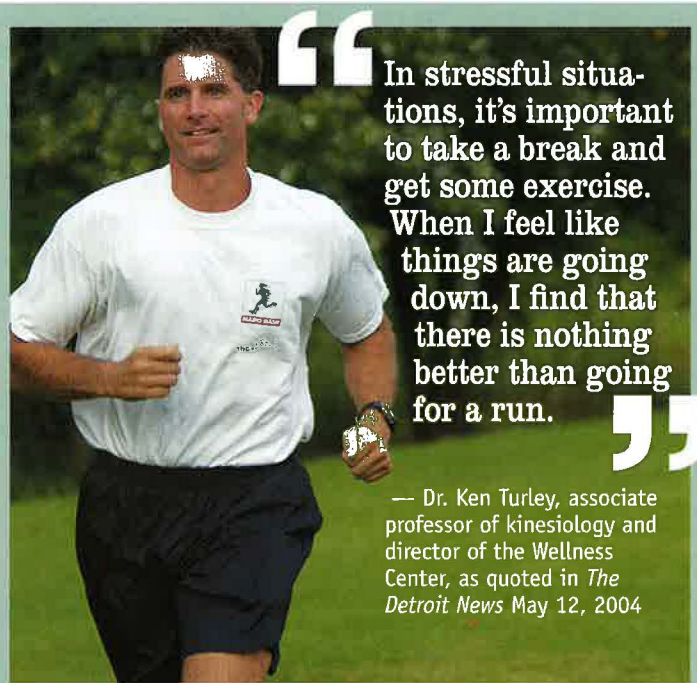
Linda Oxford

Now clinical director for Agape Child and Family Services, The

*Memphis Business Journal* recognized her as Health Care Giver of the Year in 2003, the year in which she also co-edited with Daniel Wiener *Action Therapy with Families and Groups*.

Fellow alumnus Anthony Wood ('02) described Oxford's career of caring for the health of others as "simply extraordinary."

Oxford holds Tennessee state licensure both as a clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist and serves as an adjunct at the Graduate School.



**"In stressful situations, it's important to take a break and get some exercise. When I feel like things are going down, I find that there is nothing better than going for a run."**

— Dr. Ken Turley, associate professor of kinesiology and director of the Wellness Center, as quoted in *The Detroit News* May 12, 2004





## New study-abroad campus plans underway

BEGINNING IN SPRING 2006, the University will launch its sixth international program, this time in France.

According to Dr. Jeffrey Hopper, dean of International Programs, "This was proposed as a way to strengthen the University's foreign lan-

guage program and our ties to the French-speaking world. A campus in France is a logical extension of the programs we are already offering."

Though still in the planning stages, the semester will begin in Geneva, Switzerland, and include extended visits to Toulouse in Southern France, Paris, Strasbourg, and the Island of Corsica in the Mediterranean. Beginning language skills are a prerequisite to the

program — which will be limited to 25 students — and some of the general classes may be conducted in French.

Outside class, students will participate in such activities as a bicycling tour of the French countryside and hiking on Corsica.

Students will be lodged in a combination of flats and long-term hotels, and classes will be conducted inside the Louvre during the Paris stint.

The field director is Dr. Robert McCready, associate professor of French. He received scholarships from the International Institute of Education, which also administers the Fulbright Scholarships, for teaching assistantships in Geneva, Switzerland, and Nantes, France, in 1978 and 1980, respectively. He lived in France for 17 years.

The French program in the Department of Foreign Languages currently includes 60 students. "We intend to make the program in France available often enough so that everyone involved in French studies would have the opportunity to study there," Hopper said.

For more information on the new program in France or any of the international campuses, call Mary Lou Daugherty, administrative assistant for International Programs, at (501) 279-4529.

## [FINALIST]

### Trombonist competes at international level

Tony Garcia ('04) does not take offense to the label "band geek." In fact, he claims it enthusiastically. "I love it!" he says.

In February, the 21-year-old trombonist — then a University senior — was named one of three finalists in the Robert Marsteller Competition, an international contest for up-and-coming trombonists who are university or graduate students trying to enter the professional ranks.

"This is the premier competition for young hopefuls," explains Mike Chance, director of bands and orchestra, who has worked with Garcia, a Searcy resident, for five years.

In June, Garcia performed in the final round of competition at the International Trombone Association (ITA) Annual Convention in Ithaca, N.Y. Chance, who attended, said, "He did not win the competition, but performed extremely well, and had the privilege of performing his solo for the composer himself, who was delighted with the quality and interpretation of the performance.

"It's a huge feather in his cap," Chance adds. "It puts his name among the top trombonists in the nation."

It is an accomplishment that will be added to his résumé, which is particularly impressive for someone who has played the trombone only 10 years. Before he and his family moved to Searcy, Garcia played with the Austin Symphonic Band in Austin, Texas, for two and a half years in high school. He was the baby of the bunch, otherwise composed of band directors and adult professionals.

As a University student, Garcia appeared in the Spring Sing ensemble twice and played for several Homecoming musicals with the pit orchestra.

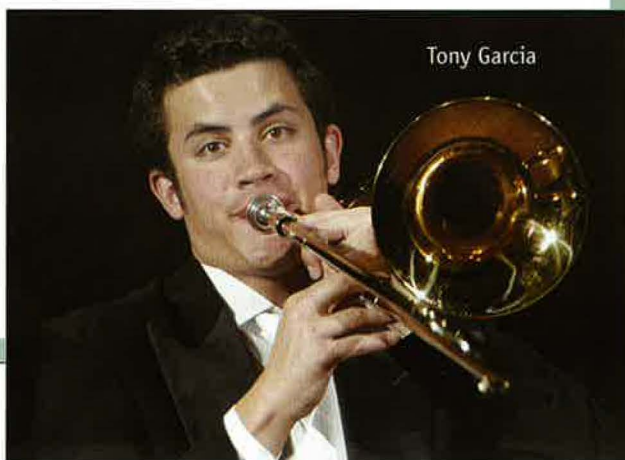
Last fall he performed the lead role in the Homecoming musical, "The Music Man." He also played percussion in the pep band and participated in intramural sports.

Garcia credits the University's Music Department for many of his opportunities and successes. "It's nice that I'm not just one more in a sea of trombonists," he says. "It's nice to be able to work so closely with the professors, and it's nice that they want to see me succeed."

Chance, his instructor, is among his biggest fans. "I'm proud of him. He hasn't had everything handed to him on a silver platter," he says. "He has tremendous innate musicianship, and he has tremendous drive, but he had to work hard to stay here. He worked summers, during the school year, and he looked for every possible scholarship."

Garcia began attending the University of Memphis this fall. He plans to get his master's and then doctor of musical arts degree so that he may one day teach trombone at the university level. "Just trombone," he emphasizes.

Of course, playing with a famed orchestra such as Boston Pops would not be out of the question, should an offer be extended. "If I had my way, that's where I would end up," he says.



Tony Garcia

## Conference offers shelter for stormy times

THE ANNUAL WOMEN IN GOD'S Service conference will be held on campus Feb. 25-26. The theme for the weekend is "Storm Stories."

Keynote speakers include Jane Maynard of Mountain Home, Ark., Alice Jewell of Searcy, and Estelle Johnson of Little Rock, Ark.

Breakout sessions and open forums are planned, with a noon luncheon to be held in the Heritage Founders Room Saturday. Complimentary tickets are available for the first 250 participants who register.

To receive more information, pre-order T-shirts and tote bags, and preregister for the luncheon and free child care, call (501) 279-4448 or visit [www.harding.edu/WINGS](http://www.harding.edu/WINGS) by Feb. 21.



## NEWSMAKERS

### FINANCE OFFICE

**Roxie Benincosa** has joined the office as director of accounting. She holds the bachelor of arts degree in accounting from Arkansas Tech University and a CPA certificate. She came from Beall Barclay & Co., CPAs in Fort Smith, Ark., where she worked as an audit manager.

**LeAnn Hernandez** has been promoted to endowments and trusts coordinator, and **Robbie DeRamus** is now grants and general ledger coordinator.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

**Mike Chalenburg** was promoted to assistant vice president in August.

### POSTAL SERVICES

**Tobey Nickels**, director, received the 2004 College and University Mail Services Association's "Golden Stamp of Approval" award. She was presented with a plaque honoring her achievement at the organization's annual conference held in March in Charleston, S.C. Nickels served as CUMSA's representative to the National Association of College and University Mail Services board of directors from 2003-04 and was elected to CUMSA's board of directors for 2004-05.

### STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

During the awards presentation at the Arkansas College Media Association's annual conference in April, the 2003 *Petit Jean* staff won first place for general excellence in yearbook, and the 2003-04 *Bison* staff took second place for general excellence in newspaper. **Jeffrey Hunter**, a senior print journalism major from Lockney, Texas, was named newspaper editor of the year.

**Steven Profaizer**, a senior public relations major from Bellingham, Mass., was selected as the *Bison* editor for the 2004-05 school year. **Lauren Candy**, a junior print journalism major from Collierville, Tenn., was named *Petit Jean* editor.

## Coffee that makes a difference

COFFEE FOR THE WORLD KNOWS no boundaries. From its roots in Uganda to its international partner base and sales, the organization is an idea that continues to expand. Its latest branch is Harding Coffee, which benefits the Associated Women for Harding's scholarship fund.

The company, owned by Bret Raymond ('90) and Matt West, states its mission simply: "to work with organizations that impact the world in a positive manner."

Raymond and West have partnered with the University



to share its mission with students who otherwise would not be able to attend. A portion of the sales from each bag of Harding Coffee goes

directly to AWH's fund for need-based scholarships. Since 1991, AWH has provided more than \$1 million in financial aid.

The organization has held many fund-raisers through the years, including the sale of Rada knives, cookbooks, prints of campus sites and sculptures. But Alumni Relations Director and AWH Liaison Liz Howell said moving to coffee sales as a renewable source of funding reaches a wider market.

Harding Coffee comes in a variety of selections, including Belltower Blend and Bison Blend, as well as the traditional Columbian Supremo, Hazelnut Cream and Southern Pecan. Each flavor comes as whole beans or ground, regular or decaf. It is available for sale at [www.hardingcoffee.com](http://www.hardingcoffee.com) and in the University Bookstore. Other online options include gift certificates and monthly delivery.



After the banquet, Janis Ragsdale, Jane Cavitt, Harold Alexander and Martha Hodges display their Distinguished Service Awards.

## Distinguished staff justly awarded

AS A UNIVERSITY DEDICATED to instilling in its students a servant lifestyle, faculty and staff are challenged to strive for Christ-like thought and action. The annual Distinguished Service Awards recognize staff members who exemplify this spirit in the workplace.

Harold Alexander, Jane Cavitt, Martha Hodges and Janis Ragsdale were honored with awards at the annual recognition dinner April 16.

Alexander has worked at Harding 13 years, currently serving as director of the Academic Advising Center and assistant to the vice president for academic affairs.

Cavitt, assistant registrar, also has worked at the Univer-

sity 13 years.

Hodges began working as administrative assistant to the vice president for academic affairs in 1993 and retired recently after 11 years of service.

Ragsdale serves as assistant to the athletic director and has worked at the University 12 years. She has held positions in the College of Business Administration as well as the office of the executive vice president.

Faculty and staff nominated more than 30 staff members, with the University president and vice presidents making the final selection. Each received a \$2,000 check and framed certificate commemorating the award.

## NASM renews music accreditation

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC received word that the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Commission on Accreditation voted at its June 2004 meeting to continue the program in good standing.

NASM is the recognized agency for institutional accreditation in music in this country.

In anticipation of the organization's decennial visit, the department submitted a comprehensive self-study report in the summer of 2003. Evaluators visited the campus in September 2003 and subsequently submitted their report

to the commission. Their report became the basis of deliberations and ultimate approval at the commission meeting in June. The renewal of accreditation continues membership in good standing for the next 10 years.

"Renewal of NASM accreditation is both incentive for and evidence of a quality music program," said Dr. Arthur Shearin, professor of music and department chair. "I am especially grateful to music alumni, faculty and students who participated in the self-study process and who continue to be actively involved in our work."





## Losing makes Tittle a winner

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

IN JUNIOR HIGH, HIS COACHES CALLED HIM "The Phenomenon." At 6 feet 4 inches and 330 pounds, Brandon Tittle was by far the largest ninth-grader in his school.

Today, Tittle is a starting offensive tackle for the Bison football team. But somewhere along the way, he almost ate himself out of an opportunity to pursue the sport he loves.

As a high school football player at Richland High School in North Richland Hills, Texas, Tittle drew the attention of college recruiters early on. His combination of size and a perfect grade point average made him very attractive to some of the nation's most prestigious schools.

After a standout junior season, universities including Army, New Mexico, Northwestern, Tulane and Vanderbilt offered the 6-foot-7, 375-pound Tittle full scholarships. Brown, Harvard and Princeton told him that if he retook the SAT and scored a few points higher, they would have a place for him.

Throughout the next year, however, an obstacle he had battled from a young age crept into the picture — food. Between

his junior and senior seasons, Tittle gained more than 30 pounds, eclipsing the 400-pound mark, and his waist expanded to a size 54. Some of his trips to local buffets became legendary. At one meal at a local restaurant, he downed 50 pieces of pizza. Another time it was 50 chicken wings. His father asked him if he ever got full. "No," he replied. "I just run out of food and have to stop eating."

Tittle's performance in his senior season suffered due to the extra weight, but he was still able to run the 40-yard dash in 5.7 seconds, a decent time for an offensive lineman. A popular recruiting service named him one of the top 100 players in the state of Texas.

"I was probably the biggest high school football player in the country my senior year," Tittle says.

When the season ended, he was ready to continue his college search. But the visits did not go well. At a football camp at the University of Oklahoma, one of the Sooners coaches told Tittle that his weight scared him.

"He said that a

person that weighs 405 pounds should not be allowed to play football," Tittle remembers.

Before National Signing Day in April, prospective college football players can make several official visits to schools before choosing where to enroll for the following year. One of Tittle's first visits, coming the week after his season finished in November, was to Northwestern University in Chicago. When he arrived, the coaches were very alarmed by the amount of weight he had added. They sent him to the school's athletic trainers to have his body fat tested. The results showed that he had 36 percent body fat, and Northwestern withdrew their offer.

"I was devastated because that was the place I wanted to go," Tittle says.

News of the test spread to other schools that had recruited him, causing them to withdraw their scholarship offers. In one spirit-crushing weekend, Tittle's dreams of playing Division I football vanished. He later visited the University

of Arkansas, who said that they liked him and that he reminded them of a former player and current Philadelphia Eagle, Shawn Andrews, a player of similar size. Arkansas could only offer a walk-on opportunity, however, due to scholarship limitations.

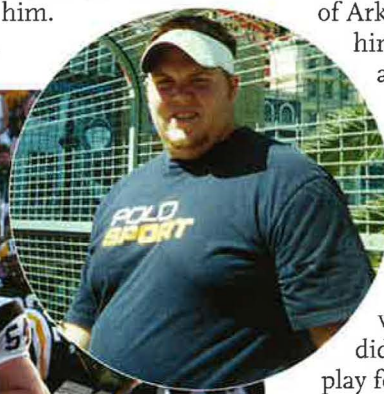
"I was basically left with nothing. It was at that point, a week before Signing Day, and I didn't know if I was even going to play football. Walking on at Arkansas wasn't really appealing at all. I was very depressed, wondering what could have happened if I had not been so lazy during high school."

National Signing Day came and went, and Tittle began to lose hope, thinking that his chance to play college football had passed. Finally, one of his coaches at Richland High School, John Emshoff ('93), a former Harding player, called Bison offensive coordinator and offensive line coach James Frank.

Frank arranged for Tittle to visit the University, and Tittle liked what he saw and heard.



Brandon Tittle (top photo) in bigger days is now helping the Bisons to a 32-27 victory over Missouri Southern University Sept. 4.







"I talked to Corey Fipps and a lot of the offensive linemen who had a chance to play in Division I. Justin Beller actually played Division I, then decided to come to Harding. They all sounded very similar to me."

Before Tittle left, Bison defensive coordinator Ronnie Huckeba pulled him into his office.

"He told me if I did not lose weight, I would probably never step foot on the field at Harding," Tittle says.

When he returned home, Tittle researched the Atkins Diet as a way to take off the weight. Over a four-month period, he stayed on the diet, worked out, and his weight began to drop.

"I felt terrible the first week I was on the Atkins diet. I felt like I was going to die. For four months, I did not eat a single carbohydrate. The diet was not as popular then, so I had to create my own meals at restaurants."

Tittle ended the diet in May 2003 after dropping down to 325 pounds. But with the weight loss came a loss of strength as well.

"When I came to Harding, I don't know if I could have bench pressed 225 pounds."

Tittle redshirted during the 2003 football season, eating a normal diet and lifting weights to improve his strength. He also had to learn a new way to play football.

"I have to play differently than I did at 400 pounds. I am learning to use my arms and my feet instead of just being able to stand up with 400 pounds beneath me. No one was going to be able to move me. It is a different style of play now."

At the beginning of the 2004 season, Tittle has a 42-inch waistline, weighs in at 305 pounds, and has a 315-pound bench press. His strength continues to improve, and his attitude is one of determination.

"I can actually call myself an athlete. I want to get to about 330 pounds by adding some muscle," Tittle says. "After that, I should have about three more years to become a dominating player."

If he reaches that goal, Tittle would be ... a phenomenon. **H**

## ROUNDUP

### Baseball scores 25-win season

The Bison baseball team set a school record with its fifth-straight winning season in 2004, completing the campaign with a 25-22 overall record. The Bisons just missed the Gulf South Conference playoffs, placing fifth with an 11-12 mark.

Highlights included a pair of no-hitters thrown by senior Mark Connett and sophomore Mike Davis.

Senior Morgan Trotter led the squad with a .360 average and 47 RBIs and graduated as Harding's career leader in at-bats, hits, doubles, RBIs and total bases. Junior Justin Cone launched a team-high 10 home runs and holds a school-record 35 career blasts.

Connett, Trotter, Cone and senior second baseman Jake Kirby each earned Second Team All-GSC honors.

### Berryhill Award goes to Kogo, Rotich

Senior cross country/track student-athletes Janet Kogo and Jacob Rotich were the winners of the 2004 Berryhill Award given to two senior athletes.



Janet Kogo      Jacob Rotich

A health care management major, Kogo, a native of Kapsabet, Kenya, is the first international female student to win the award.

She is the first Lady Bison to earn two All-American honors in cross country. She placed third in the national meet, the highest finish ever by a Lady Bison runner. Kogo also won the GSC Individual Championship for the second-straight year.

Kogo's track career includes two All-American honors earned in the outdoor 5,000 meters in 2003 and the indoor 5,000 meters this year.

Rotich, also a native of Kapsabet, Kenya, is the second international student to win the men's award. He completed his degree in information technology in May.

In the fall of 2003, Rotich became the University's first three-time All-American in cross country. He finished second at the NCAA II Nationals in Raleigh, N.C., the highest finish ever by a Bison runner. He won six of the eight races he competed in and was the Gulf South Conference and NCAA II South Region individual champion.

Rotich's track career includes All-American honors in the outdoor 10,000 meters in 2003 and the indoor 5,000 meters this year. He holds school records in both events.

### Lacrosse places third in conference

The lacrosse team finished third overall in the Great Rivers Lacrosse Conference Tournament in May in St. Louis. Making the GRLC All-Conference First Team were sophomore Dave Boyd and juniors John Tomassoni and Jim Wallingford. Tomassoni was also named the GRLC Division B Player of the Year.

### Success continues for tennis teams

The Lady Bison tennis team notched their 13th straight winning campaign in 2004, finishing 15-10, while the men's team recorded its 31st consecutive winning season with a 12-11 record.

Milena Chisaca led the Lady Bisons with 17 singles wins and earned All-GSC honors. Senior Sara Campbell had 15 singles wins and 14 doubles triumphs and finished her career with the most doubles wins in program history.

Two Bisons, junior David Ferreira and junior Andrew Giron, earned All-Gulf South Conference honors. Giron played No. 1 singles with Ferreira at No. 2.

For the latest sports information, visit [www.harding.edu/athletics](http://www.harding.edu/athletics).

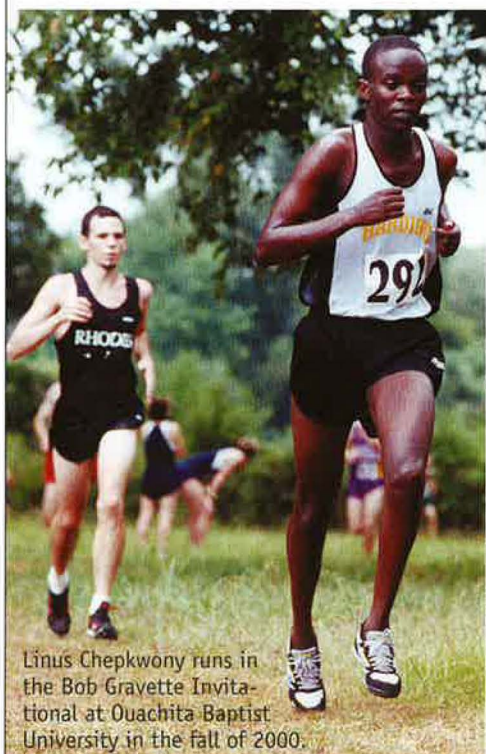


*Track and cross country teams  
prove you can never have*

# Too many Kenyans

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

**I**N 1994, LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY TRACK/CROSS COUNTRY coach Darrell Price called Harding's cross country coach Ted Lloyd with a problem many coaches would love to have — he had too many Kenyans. ■ At the time, LCU was one of the premier distance-running schools in the country and had won several NAIA national championships. They had an excess of quality runners, so Kenyans Abe Kirwa and Kenneth Kulei



Linus Chepkwony runs in the Bob Gravette Invitational at Ouachita Baptist University in the fall of 2000.

transferred to Harding and were followed a year later by Simeon Sawe. The Bison track/cross country teams have had at least one Kenyan on their roster ever since, and they have helped transform the University's running program into one of the most successful in NCAA II.

Kenyans are known throughout athletics as the best distance runners in the world. Thirteen of the last 14 men's winners of the Boston Marathon were Kenyan, and women from that country have won four of the last five. At the University, Kenyan runners have earned 17 track and 11 cross-country All-American honors since 1996.

Lloyd attributes their successes to lifestyle, genetics and altitude.

He tells the story of a discussion he had with Kirwa shortly after he arrived at the University. Lloyd asked how long he had been running. "I've always run," replied Kirwa. "It was six miles to my school."

"So you ran 12 miles each day?" asked Lloyd.

"Oh, no sir," said Kirwa, "I had to come home for lunch."

"It is as natural for Kenyans to run wherever they want to go as it is for us to drive where we want to go," says Lloyd. "They also have a diet that is about 90 percent carbohydrates, which is ideal for training."

Running 24 miles each day is not uncommon among Kenyan schoolchildren, and running that distance at an altitude 6,000 feet above sea level produces a nation of amazing distance runners.

The first three Kenyans made their mark on Bison athletics. Kirwa was the 1994 Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference individual cross country champion and qualified for two NAIA national marathons. Kulei earned All-American honors in the 4x800-meter relay in 1996, and Sawe was a three-time track All-American who still holds four University records, including the outdoor 3,000-meter steeplechase mark.

The trio's early success caught the attention of other runners in their homeland who initiated a second wave of runners to make their way to the United States and attend the University.

"Kenyan runners have an incredible network," says Bryan Phillips, who coached track when the first three arrived. "Kenyan athletes know where every other Kenyan athlete is and what they are doing, at least by name if not personally. The runners who came to Harding knew other runners who were already here."

According to current Lady Bison Janet Kogo, who became the University's first female Kenyan runner in 2000, many times an entire district of the country will become involved with a runner.

"Most Kenyans do not have enough money to pay for a ticket to the United States," says Kogo. "But if the people of your region find out that it is possible for you to go to school overseas, many times they will collect money from everyone in the region to pay for your ticket. Then they follow your career, both running and academics, and hope that someday you will return to Kenya to help them."

The second wave continued the success of their earlier compatriots. As the University transitioned into the NCAA,

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

"It is as natural for Kenyans to **RUN** wherever they want to





Reed Fisher (far left) follows closely behind Kenyan teammates Peter Kosgei and Jacob Rotich at regionals in Atlanta. Rotich won his third individual title, and Kosgei placed third.

several Kenyans earned All-American honors. Linus Chepkwony, Japheth Langat, Jerry Maritim, Albert Tabut and Jonah Tanui all garnered All-American honors in track. Chepkwony, Langat and Maritim were also cross country All-Americans.

And Tabut's association with Peter Rono, who won the gold medal for Kenya in the men's 1,500 meters at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, and is one of his country's most famous runners, would bring three others to the University. Today he wages a personal crusade to maintain Kenya's supremacy in track and field. As part of that crusade, Rono assists athletes near his hometown of Kapsabet in finding a university in the United States through which to pursue an education and further their running careers.

Kapsabet is a village of just over

10,000 people located in the Rift Valley in western Kenya. With an elevation of about 6,000 feet, it has been the home to many elite runners and nearly the University's entire Kenyan contingent.

A chance meeting with Rono at a bus stop very early one morning influenced Kogo's career. She was originally slated to attend the University of Alabama, but at the urging of Rono and Tabut she came to Searcy at the last minute. Rono then contacted Phillips about another of his charges that might be a perfect fit for Harding — Jacob Rotich.

"In Kenya, we know how to run; we just don't know how to get anywhere," says Kogo. "Peter Rono encouraged us to take computer classes and showed us how to register for the SAT and find a university."

Kogo and Rotich are two of the most decorated runners in Harding history. Both received the highest honor in Bison athletics, winning the Berryhill Award in May. Kogo is a two-time All-American in both cross country and track, while Rotich earned three All-American honors in cross country and four in track, including an individual national championship in the outdoor 10,000 meters.

At the 2003 cross country championships, Kogo and Rotich helped Harding's teams to their best finishes ever at the national meet. Kogo placed third in the women's event as the Lady Bisons notched a fifth-place overall mark. Rotich was the individual runner-up, leading the men to a third-place finish.

Rono also directed senior Helen Singoei to the University. Last season, Singoei earned All-American honors in cross country and is the Lady Bisons' top returning runner in 2004.

Current head coach Steve Guymon hopes to see the relationship with Rono continue.

"The best thing about working with Peter Rono is that he is very trustworthy," says Guymon. "You know that you are going to get a good person and a good athlete."

The Bisons' most recent All-American is sophomore Peter Kosgei, who placed third at cross country nationals as a freshman. Kosgei, also a native of Kapsabet, developed a relationship with missionary Monte Cox as a student at Chepkong'ony Church of Christ Secondary School.

The Kenyan contingent continues to grow this school year with the additions of Julius Cheruiyot, a friend of Kosgei, and Savito Chelimo, the younger sister of Kogo.

They are welcome additions for Guymon, who sees the Kenyans as a key not only because of their talent, but also because of their drive.

"The Kenyans have been great for the other runners on our team," says Guymon. "With their work ethic, they bring all the other runners to the next level and make the whole team better."

As their success continues, the problem becomes one for Gulf South Conference and other opponents — Harding has too many Kenyans. **H**



*Quest for  
greater levels  
of service drives*

# Eagle's Wings Campaign

By DAVID CROUCH

**T**HE EAGLE HAS BEGUN TO SOAR. Although the journey will take five years, time is not the prominent factor. The height of ascent will be the defining quality of the flight. ■

In the last year, Harding has launched its most ambitious fund-raising endeavor ever, The Eagle's Wings Campaign. The success of the campaign is destined to indelibly leave its mark on the history of the institution. ■ Fund-raising campaigns are as much a part





of the traditions of Harding as the white swings that dot the campus landscape. Through eight decades of existence, the University has relied on donors for the resources to meet budgets, construct buildings, provide scholarships and assure its future. Past campaigns had memorable themes — The Decade of Development, Endowing a Destiny, Beyond Excellence and The Dream Continues. They also had equally challenging goals, which when met propelled Harding to greater levels of service.

Just as eagles are not content to fly at the same levels but soar to new heights, Harding has never been content with the status quo. In these early years of the 21st century, the University is again spreading its wings to soar to new realms. The \$135 million goal of the campaign is \$35 million more than any previous target. While the goal is lofty, constituents will find familiarity in The Eagle's Wings Campaign. The goal includes components for scholarship, capital, restricted needs and endowment.

Like previous fund-raising projects, this current campaign is not just about money. It is about maintaining a leadership position in Christian higher education. It is about mission and focusing on the future. It is about reaching ever-increasing levels of service. It is about Harding's commitment to integrating faith, learning and living.

## Scholarship funding

The University continues to attract some of the nation's brightest students. They are deserving individuals endeavoring to make a difference in the world. To make Harding available to more students, it must continue to be affordable.

While the annual cost of coming to Harding, slightly more than \$16,000, is well below the national average of \$29,000 at America's private colleges and universities, many prospective students cannot afford to attend. Those who can often find themselves saddled with a burden of debt upon graduation. The Eagle's Wings Campaign seeks to make Harding available to more individuals by providing much-needed scholarships for its students. In the five-year campaign, at least \$16 million is expected to be raised for scholarship funding.

## Capital projects

In addition to scholarship assistance, students need state-of-the-art facilities that



Student scholarships are fundamental to the campaign's objectives.

enhance learning. Likewise, faculty members need a teaching environment that gives them the tools to challenge and equip their students. To achieve these goals, \$22 million has been earmarked for capital projects.

## Pryor Science Center

The first, an addition to the Pryor Science Center, was completed in time for the beginning of the 2004 fall semester. Burgeoning enrollments in the sciences, expanded engineering curriculums, and the addition of a master's degree for physician assistants spurred the need for a \$4.5 million addition. The three-story expansion of more than 36,000 square feet increased the science complex to more than 100,000 square feet. The Department of Computer Science and Engineering will use most of the space; however, the addition also allowed for the remodeling of the existing structure to meet the growing needs of the biology, mathematics and physical science departments.

## Thornton Education Center

A second project, the construction of the \$5 million Wilma Stephens Thornton Education Center, was begun in late July and will be completed in the fall of 2005. The new education center will add more than 27,000 square feet of classrooms, laboratories, resource facilities and offices for the College of Education. Harding has the third-largest program

for teacher education in the state, graduating more teachers than all the other private colleges combined. More than 1,000 graduate students currently are enrolled, a significant increase over the 171 enrolled just six years ago.

The need for additional facilities came after the University's constituencies requested additional graduate education offerings, and the College of Education responded with innovative curriculums leading to the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), the Master of Education in educational leadership, and the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degrees. The popularity of these new programs quickly stretched to the limit the ability of the College of Education to adequately service its current enrollment.

## American Heritage Center

A third capital project on the drawing board is a \$5 million expansion and remodeling of the American Heritage Center. The Center is the most-used building on the campus by visitors. It becomes the focal point of activities for alumni, parents and members of the community when they visit the campus. It houses a number of administrative offices, the cafeteria, the Heritage Inn and conference facilities.

Recently the cafeteria and its second-floor dining and meeting rooms were renovated. Now there is a need to create more meeting rooms and administrative offices and to upgrade the lobby and entrance to the building. Additional offices and a relocation of the Heritage Inn registration desk are planned on the first floor. The second floor expansion includes the new meeting/dining rooms and a large multipurpose room overlooking the quadrangle of the campus.

## Residence halls

Currently 80 percent of Harding's undergraduate students live in campus housing, and that percentage is much larger than most colleges' in the nation. Students' residence halls are their homes away from home, and it is imperative that residence hall life have a positive impact on the total Harding experience. Residence halls continually need to be upgraded.

Six renovations in residence halls will be a part of the campaign. These renovation projects totaling \$4 million will involve more than just regular maintenance. Many will include new windows, facades, furniture and types >>



of roofs. The first of these renovations was completed in the summer of 2004, and a different project will be completed each summer thereafter.

### Administration

Capital projects for administrative areas have also been considered in the allocation of funds. The Administration Building has been a campus landmark for five decades, housing many of the essential administrative offices. To maximize the ability of the building to serve the campus community, an \$800,000 project has been adopted to recapture space in the Little Theatre on the second floor for use as administrative offices for the expanding needs of Information Technology Services. This project will be completed

midway through the campaign.

### Miscellaneous projects

Rounding out the capital projects is \$2.7 million to be used for miscellaneous remodeling and additional parking. Each year, costs arise that cannot be fully anticipated, yet these expenditures must be included in the University's planning. These may include adding new furniture or a fresh coat of paint, replacing heating and cooling systems, changing the interior arrangement of a building, or replacing a roof. Additional parking has already been created on the northeast corner of the campus behind Pryor Science Center and adjacent to the American Heritage Center at the corner of Grand and Center streets.

### Restricted needs

Slightly less than 10 percent of the campaign's goal (\$12 million) has been allocated for restricted needs. In every major fund-raiser, there is a category that requires gifts to maintain existing projects. Often these programs were initiated previously, but their importance to the University requires that specific funding be secured annually. Many of these projects involve special academic programs or established scholarship funds. Gifts in this category are raised from donors with specific interests in the ongoing projects.

### Endowment

The lion's share of the funds to be raised — \$85 million — will go to bolstering the University's endowment needs. Like

## Thornton lends name to new education building, advice to all who will learn

By APRIL D. FATULA

"I met my teacher, and my life was changed."

So begins the second chapter of Wilma Stephens Thornton's autobiography, *Where the Roses Never Fade*.

She was referring to her first teacher at Prattsville (Ark.) School, Miss Mana Harrison, but the same words also have been spoken of Thornton by countless school children.

In her 41 years of teaching, Thornton changed many lives. When she retired in 1970, the Sheridan (Ark.) High School yearbook staff dedicated their annual to Thornton, whom they described as "A devoted teacher ... A loyal friend ... Math students throughout the years have witnessed the wisdom and enthusiasm that she has brought into our halls. Under Mrs. Thornton's leadership, the student council has become nationally famous for the principles of student government that she has inspired. The honor study hall, freedom to express divergent opinions, and ac-

cepting responsibility in a democratic school have been her dreams ... dreams that she has helped to develop and expand."

The spirit and ideals of such an educator will continue to find expression as future generations of teachers find inspiration in Thornton, for whom the University's new \$5 million education center will be dedicated when construction is completed. Dr. David Burks announced the honor July 27 at the groundbreaking ceremony.

The 35 years since Thornton's retirement have brought many changes to the classroom, but current issues such as school consolidation and ensuring that no child is left behind were issues Thornton faced head-on long ago. Her first class in Sheridan, for example, was composed of the poorest and most disadvantaged students from the first and third grades, with every imaginable learning problem. She gave them three simple tasks each day —



The architect's rendering depicts how the Thornton Education Center will look upon completion.



the previous campaign, securing additional endowment is the largest portion. In the Diamond Campaign (1998-2003), Harding inaugurated a program to significantly increase its endowment. That initiative not only is being carried over into this one, but also it is being expanded. Endowment gifts create a permanent legacy to Harding and its students.

Gifts are placed in the University's endowment fund, and a portion of the income earned from the fund finances many areas of the school's activities, including student scholarships, technology, stabilized tuition, curriculum enhancement and physical plant resources.

The University's goal is to have at least twice as much endowment as its annual operating budget. That goal is con-

sidered to be the minimum for an institution its size. Many comparable schools have endowments that are three to six times the amount of their annual budgets.

Throughout its existence, Harding has relied almost entirely on annual giving, but obviously there is a great benefit to having an endowment whose income can be spent for annual operating purposes. Such a plan creates financial stability for the University. The majority of the funds raised for endowment will be used to provide additional scholarships to help make the University affordable.

The Eagle's Wings Campaign is unparalleled in Harding's history. It is a bold and confident flight into the future that will enhance every facet of the school's service. The campaign is already

beginning its second year. In the "quiet" or "silent" phase, which began in July 2003, the University raised more than \$27 million. Those early gifts are the reason two capital projects are already complete, and a third is underway.

Harding is attempting to engage all its constituencies in The Eagle's Wings Campaign. As President David Burks said, "Harding has never reached new heights of service and growth without the unqualified support of its donors. There is a place for everyone in The Eagle's Wings Campaign. At the end of the campaign when we total all the gifts of people who donate, those individuals will have provided the impetus for Harding's flight toward higher levels of service and excellence." **H**

brush their teeth, wash their faces and hands, and bring a handkerchief to class to blow their noses. Gradually, the students began making real progress, learning to read and comprehend.

Thornton was an educator who believed her role gave her the opportunity to shape lives, and she never lost sight of that responsibility. "With encouragement, patience and a little time, one's mind can surely be put to use," she says. "Enthusiasm and motivation should be the key words for teachers."

Education was not something Thornton took for granted. As a student, she hoed cotton for others at the rate of \$1.50 per day, sunup to sundown, to earn money with which to buy new schoolbooks. Her prized books, she says, were "earned with the sweat of our brow."

Thornton was interested in public speaking from an early age, and her father encouraged her to take speech lessons from various instructors and memorize passages, which she would often recite publicly. "Those early speakings gave me confidence and an incentive to high endeavor, because I didn't want to be just an ordinary somebody," she says. "I never did. I wanted to reach out and go and do and learn. I was always eager for knowledge."

Her teaching career began in the fall of 1926, when, at age 16, she was hired as a full-time substitute. That year she met Raymond Thornton, the man she would marry one year later. When he asked Wilma to marry him, Raymond promised her mother that he would help educate her daughter. Though she started college on a part-time basis in 1927, taking classes as her full-time teaching schedule allowed, it was 1949 when she proudly received the bachelor of science in education degree from Arkansas State Teachers College in Conway.

Thornton's two children, Ray Thornton and Betty Thornton Ulrey ('52), both pursued careers in education: Ray served as president of the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University, and Betty taught English and journalism at Harding.

The University has honored Thornton with a center devoted to education, but students of all disciplines — past, present and future — may benefit from her words of wisdom.

"I told [my students] often to get up with a purpose each morning, ready to accomplish something. I wanted them to know that one person can make a difference for good, for someday they might be called upon to be that person." **H**



Floyd Daniel, senior vice president, applauds after Wilma Thornton turns the first shovel of dirt July 27 to begin construction of the new education building.



# HONORS SYMPOSIUM leaps forward through



By JENNIFER LASHLEY

**T**HOSE WHO GREW UP GOING TO SUNDAY SCHOOL are familiar with the story of Moses and how he guided God's people out of Egypt. They remember the 10 plagues and know God spared the firstborn of Israel. They have read about the Israelites' decades of wandering through the wilderness before entering the Promised Land. They may even be able to rattle off the names of the 12 tribes, even if they cannot spell them. ■ But how many of them have celebrated the Passover and understand its significance to both Jewish and Christian history? How many have participated in the cleansing rituals and feast as the Hebrews did? Would they partake if



# journeys into the past



*“Who may stand in his holy place?  
He who has clean hands and a pure heart.”*

PSALM 24:3-4

Counselors Jamie Walters (left) and Mary Catherine Clark, dressed in Old Testament garb, lead second session Symposium students, now divided into tribes, to the tabernacle and surrounding campsite.

given the chance — as did 173 high school juniors this July in a tabernacle built to Old Testament specifications?

Welcome to Honors Symposium.

## A brief history

A full-size tabernacle and the complementary feast are only part of what make Symposium a distinctive experience. In 12 years of existence, 1,141 students have shared in this two-week adventure created to introduce them to the opportunities available at Harding. During the project-oriented course for which students earn three hours of college credit in the humanities, they attend classes with a select group of professors, engage in community service and foster lifelong relationships.

The concept originated in the fall of 1992 when Dr. Jim Carr,

executive vice president, approached Dr. Jeffrey T. Hopper, dean of the Honors College and International Programs, about beginning such a program for high school juniors. With Carr's approval, Hopper shaped a plan that, since its inception, has deviated little from its first objectives.

The scheduled starting date was the summer of 1993, and the directors set a goal of hosting one session with 25 students. Exceeding their expectations, 42 students came. In light of the excellent response, two sessions were held the next year. After almost a decade of increasing interest, they made the move to three sessions in 2000, and in 2004, held four.

Although many participants learn about Symposium from siblings or friends who have attended, all must go through the highly selective process for acceptance. Mirroring the demo- ➤



graphic mix of the University, the program has drawn students from more than 40 states and several foreign countries.

## A rich present

While instructors, themes and activities have differed, the original aim remains rooted in a learning method made popular by the ancient Greek scholars. "We wanted to have a quality University course taught in the form of a symposium, which is lots of teachers gathered around the academic table offering their comments on a topic," Hopper says. "What we're trying to do is show them what a Christian perspective is like from several academic points of view."

Professors from multiple disciplines contribute to meet this goal: Bible, communication, history, music and political science. In 2004, this lineup included Monte Cox, assistant professor of Bible; Mark Elrod, associate professor of political science; Cliff Ganus, professor of music; Pat Garner, professor of communication; Kevin Klein, associate professor of history; Jack Shock, associate professor of communication; and Hopper himself.

Each day's schedule is different, yet gives students a chance to connect what they have discussed in previous classes. While Monday morning they may consider the Black Plague in history class with Klein, the afternoon may be spent canoeing. On Tuesday, they could debate interpretations of the Bill of Rights with Shock and finish the day with a game of Jeopardy.

But while fun and creativity are emphasized, 10 minutes in any class will convince the observer that the content is not watered down but rather is approached like an upper-level college course. After all, says Hopper, "How often do you have a three-hour course taught by seven professors?"

Examples of weighty topics include the revelation that a misplaced comma is responsible for one of the doctrinal issues between Catholicism and Christianity, or that the Dark Ages were not actually the knowledge-stifling centuries most envision them to be, but rather a clever ploy to make people receptive to new ideas in the Renaissance. Ethical questions are raised concerning the U.S. Constitution, cloning, stem-cell research and the advance of technology. But rather than becoming overwhelmed, these students embrace the invitation to think critically.

For many, the subject matter is humbling, forcing students to step outside of what they know and see a bigger picture. 2004 participant Karie Cross, of Mount Juliet, Tenn., finds that she has been challenged to consider other worldviews. "I never realized there were so many positions," she says.

Alexandra Loan, a 2004 student from Searcy, says she particularly enjoyed history with Klein and Cox's discussions concerning why people act as they do. Robyn Smith (2004), of San Antonio, Texas, says, "Dr. Klein opened my eyes to how individualist our society is, and how that's not necessarily a good thing all the time." She says learning about ritual behaviors with Cox has helped her understand how people's behaviors indicate their worldviews — making her examine her beliefs in a new light.

But for every class period sat through, an outdoor activity backs it up. One highlight during the first week is the Harding University at Camp Tahkodah (HUT) project, often found to be a rough, but illuminating experience. Based on a concept of the global village at Heifer International in nearby Perryville, Ark., students are divided into villages representing the living conditions of many of the poor in the world. Plunged into a reality that is harsh for so much of the earth's population, students work, trade, buy, sell, cook and learn as the native people would, forcing them out of their comfort zones to comprehend



As counselors Elizabeth Jackson and Jamey Walters observe, counselor Mary Catherine Clark cleanses a "tribe" of students before they enter the courtyard of the tabernacle, and Dr. Jeffrey Hopper, in the role of the High Priest, recites Hebrew prayers over them.

a world outside their own environments.

Alyssa Shaw-Wilmot (2004), of North Tonawanda, N.Y., says HUT is a well-thought out program that has taught her how she is "really a minority in the global community."

"Early on, the best experience was HUT," says Smith. "It showed me [that], compared to the rest of the world, I have so much. We have an obligation to spread the word and share."

## The tabernacle: relevant then and now

While many thought-provoking activities take place daily, one appears to be the nucleus for holding it all together: the Passover experience. The idea of building a tabernacle and partaking of Passover as part of the program originated with Dr. John Fortner, associate professor of Bible. And with the help of professor Garner's farm, dimensions straight from scripture, a little manna and ingenuity, the concept has blossomed into the cornerstone for each session.

Clay Johnson ('02), who attended Symposium in 1996 and served as a counselor in 2000 and 2001, helped in the construction of the first tabernacle. The experience that stands out most in his mind, he says, was "spending weeks designing, building, hauling, erecting, finding collapsed and rebuilding a PVC-pipe tabernacle."

For the last four years, the tabernacle evening is the second Saturday of each session. Up to this point, the students have attended HUT and participated in classes and service projects. They have even built the furniture that will be placed in the



“Symposium really does **CHANGE** your perspective  
on the world. It helps you to **FUNCTION**  
with other people better.” *Robyn Smith*

tabernacle, unaware of why they were constructing it.

The day begins around lunchtime, when the group meets and takes a 45-minute drive out into the country. After arriving, they notice an approaching couple dressed in robes. As the pair get closer, students see that they are wearing priest's clothing. The “priests” announce to the students that they will be placed in one of the 12 tribes of Jacob and then march them up to the campsite to the beat of drums.

As they reach the top of the hill, the tabernacle comes into view. Built to exact biblical specifications, the fence surrounding is 100 cubits long by 50 wide cubits by 5 cubits high. The altar resides immediately inside, 5 cubits squared. The tabernacle itself measures 30 by 10 by 10. And just like the original, it contains the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place, also proportional.

Presiding over the event is the high priest, dressed in a deep blue ephod and breastplate replicated and decorated according to Jewish tradition. And to command the attention of the “Israelites,” he uses a shofar, a ram's-horn trumpet blown by Hebrews in battle and high religious observances.

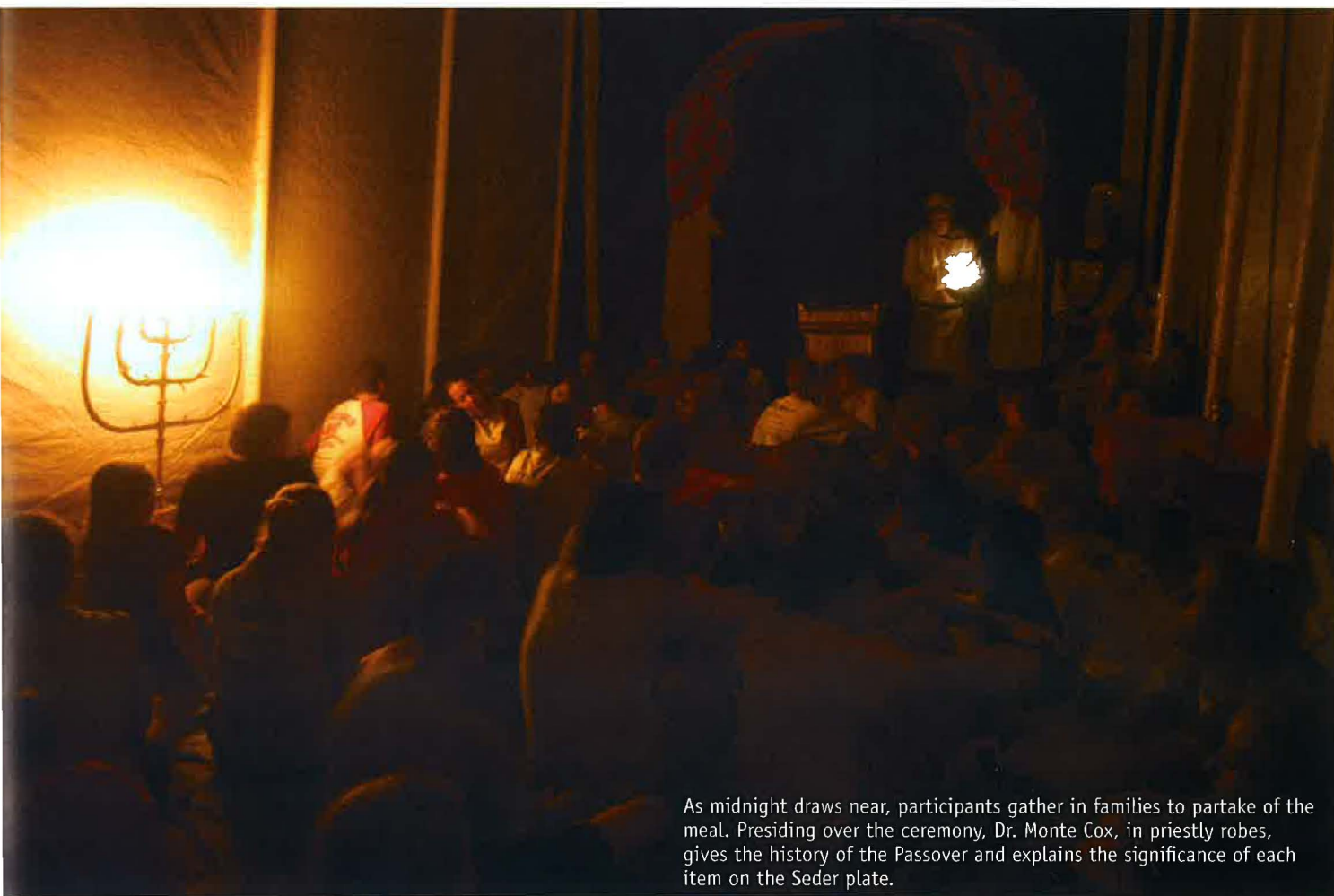
One of the first activities that takes place has the students place the Ark of the Covenant, table of showbread and altar of

incense in their correct positions in the tabernacle. During the early afternoon, the tribes are consecrated, shown their campsites, and instructed to pitch their tents. A reading of the Ten Commandments also takes place, carved into stone tablets in the Paleo-Hebrew in which they were first written. And deviating only a bit from biblical times, but well-received, is the late afternoon meal of manna and quail — or in this case, pita bread, chicken and honey — prepared by each tribe on its fire.

As the sun sets and the tabernacle takes on a hazy appearance from lit torches, the tribes gather again to prepare the Passover, or Seder, meal. When the food is finished — the lamb, the boiled egg, the unleavened bread, and the kharoset, a mixture of apples, nuts, cinnamon and honey — they again gather for the service.

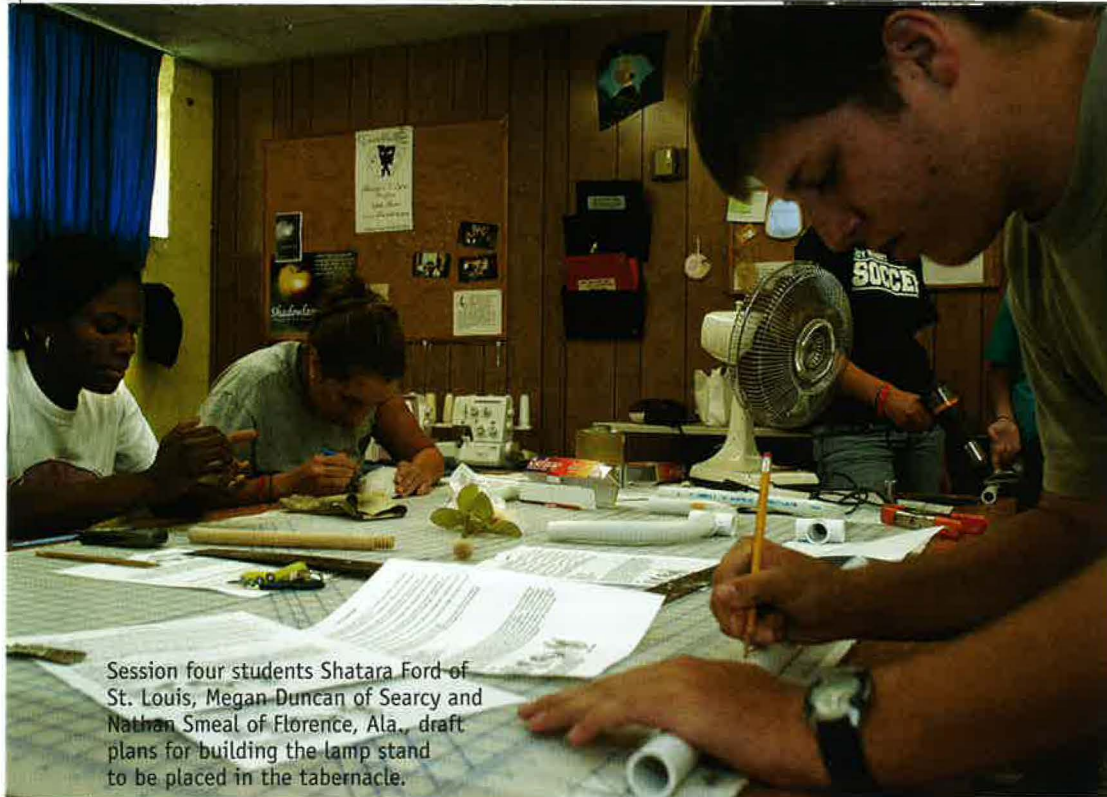
Then Cox, in priestly garb, begins the Haggadah, or telling of the history, by having someone ask the question, “Why is tonight different from all the other nights?” As they eat the meal, the significance of each item and its preparation is explained, offering both a history lesson and spiritual experience.

He reveals that present-day meals no longer have a whole lamb, but merely a shankbone to symbolize the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. He also explains how the kharoset »



As midnight draws near, participants gather in families to partake of the meal. Presiding over the ceremony, Dr. Monte Cox, in priestly robes, gives the history of the Passover and explains the significance of each item on the Seder plate.





Session four students Shatara Ford of St. Louis, Megan Duncan of Searcy and Nathan Smeal of Florence, Ala., draft plans for building the lamp stand to be placed in the tabernacle.

represents the mortar that the Jews mixed during their Egyptian captivity. And like tradition, the tribes share in four cups of "wine." The first, the Cup of Redemption, tells of God's promise to rescue Israel from slavery. The second, the Cup of Freedom, recounts their release and escape from Egypt. The third, the Cup of Justice, is the point at which Christ would institute the Lord's Supper (Matthew 26:26, Luke 22:20), and the fourth, the Cup of the Covenant, is drunk at the conclusion of the meal along with the Great Hallel, "God's love endures forever" (Psalm 136).

Following tradition, Passover ends with the eating of the Afikomen, one loaf of unleavened bread that had been set aside for "dessert" at the commencement of the meal, and with words expressing hope for the following celebration: "Next year in Jerusalem!" A group discussion then draws parallels between the sacrificial lamb and Christ as well as Jewish rituals and Christian tradition.

The completion of the ceremony strongly affects those present — students, visitors, and even professors who have participated several times. For rarely have they learned about the significance and relevance of the Passover to their lives as Christians. Like the themes of many of the classes, the observance helps reveal how events of today are deeply rooted in the traditions of old.

Julie Zahareas (2004), of Lowell, Mass., found the evening revealing and applicable. "I was impressed by the significance of it all — how everything has meaning," she says.

For Cross, like numerous students, it proved to be the most powerful experience. The greatest effect, she says, "was learning how different the Old Testament is from the New [Testament]." And now she is more appreciative. "We don't have to sacrifice anymore because Jesus became our sacrifice."

### A focused future

The tabernacle encounter is only one aspect of the program. The diverse mix of topics and activities introduces students to significant University programs, including International Programs, Honors, service projects and missions. Many stu-

dents, after attending Symposium, will sign up for an International Program long before they enter their first-semester class schedule. Says Hopper, "The kind of student who is a Symposium student is a really good International Programs student." And often they sign up together. In one instance, 28 out of 38 students on one semester abroad had attended the same Honors Symposium session together.

About 90 percent of students attending the program later come to the University. However, "It is not my goal to make sure they come to Harding," says Hopper. "It's my goal to make sure they know we're here so that they can make a good decision. I want the program to be worth doing even if no one

comes to Harding. I want the participants to leave with something of great value to their lives."

The students' reactions are testimonies to the merit of the program.

The friendships that are formed have lasting effects. Loan says, "I feel like I've been here forever, and I don't want to leave."

While many students wind up finding roommates, says Cross, "the bonus college credit and two weeks out of the house in the summer" were reasons enough for her to come.

"Symposium introduced me to lots of friends who were already planning to attend Harding," says Johnson. "It's easier to imagine yourself liking a place when you know that people you like will be there."

Nathan Jones of New York City attended in the summer of 1996. Although his plans to attend the University changed, he believes that Symposium positively impacted him and encourages others to come. "It's an incredible experience that you should most definitely take advantage of," he says. "You get to know the campus, the professors and get a glimpse of the Christian friends that will become yours."

Johnson too advises high school juniors to attend, but cautions against believing Symposium represents the college experience at any other university. He encourages them to research all their college options seriously. "Symposium is a really impressive made-from-scratch program to come from Harding, and the University has it to thank for its influx of National Merit Scholars and Honors students," he says. "I think its greatest strength is the creative and intelligent faculty and students the program attracts."

"It really does change your perspective on the world," Smith says of the experience, overall. "It helps you to function with other people better."

And in turn, takes motivated high school juniors and gives them a push toward becoming successful college students. Shaw-Wilmot says that questions presented to her have spurred her to action. "I want to go home and learn on my own." **H**



# Surpassing the standards

By LARRY LONG, vice president for academic affairs

WHILE COLLEGE STUDENTS LOOK FORWARD with anticipation to Thanksgiving break, the University also is eagerly anticipating November, specifically the 14-17. During that time, seven administrators and faculty from other universities will be on campus for the long-awaited site visit from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

The team of consultant-evaluators will determine whether Harding is accredited for an additional 10 years.

First accredited by the North Central Association in 1954, the University has since received positive reports every 10 years, the last in 1994, under the leadership of then Academic Vice President Neale Pryor.

**WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?** Institutional accreditation is based on an evaluation of how well the overall university program meets agency standards. It assures the quality of the program, makes financial aid available to University students, and allows them to move on to graduate and professional programs of merit.

To prepare for and as part of the accreditation process, the University also prepares a self-study. The self-study process allows Harding to assure its constituents of the quality of the programs and to stop for a moment and reflect on its strengths and the challenges it faces. The process allows the University to state confidently its mission: to provide a quality education that will lead to an understanding and philosophy of life consistent with Christian ideals.

**ACCREDITATION CRITERIA.** To receive accreditation, universities must present evidence of meeting five criteria: mission and integrity; preparing for the future; student learning and effective teaching; acquisition, discovery and application of knowledge; and engagement and service.

The Higher Learning Commission also notes four "cross-cutting themes" that are characteristic of a healthy institution: future-oriented, learning-focused, connected and distinctive.

**HARDING'S CURRENT STUDY.** The current self-study began in the spring of 2002 under the leadership of President Burks and a steering committee chaired by myself. The writing committee (a subcommittee of the steering) then determined a strategy to coordinate both the study itself and the report submitted to the Higher Learning Commission prior to the visit.

Recognizing the benefits of looking forward, the committee chose to be evaluated by the new criteria that will be mandatory in the spring of 2005 even though that meant the University would be among the very first institutions in the country to do so. Since President Burks had served as chair of the board of

the Higher Learning Commission during the period when the new criteria were being developed, he affirmed the recommendation.

The study and the report were organized around the five accreditation criteria and the 21 core components that relate to them. The committee gathered evidence to address these components from internal University assessments, faculty and staff. Additionally, input was sought from the President's Council and other off-campus constituencies as well as from institutional reports and other data sources.

Due to a concern in the 1994 self-study about assessment at the departmental level, the writing committee included a chapter reporting the history of the progress of assessment from merely a plan in 1994 to a full-blown, university-wide, ongoing and effective system today.

Drafts were made available to faculty via a Web site early in the process, and the final draft of the report was completed by the end of summer 2004. The report will be presented to the visiting team and circulated on campus to document the outcomes of the self-study.

**OUTCOMES.** Several key themes arose from the self-study that describe the University as mission-driven; strong in strategic planning; fiscally sound and responsible; future-oriented; technologically savvy; having an effective, systematic and ongoing assessment process; supporting student learning and scholarship; encouraging lifelong learning; creating a culture of service among its constituents; collaborating well with other institutions and organizations; and encouraging the appreciation of diversity, accountability, self-reflection and improvement.

**RECOMMENDATIONS.** Among the actions recommended in response to the challenges noted in the self-study are a renewed commitment to improved communication throughout campus because of the institution's increasing size, a growing emphasis on graduate programs, changing procedures, and the need to retrain academic advisers on the new technology that provides self-serve scheduling for students.

In addition, a complete review of the liberal arts curriculum and some academic policies will begin this fall as the University seeks to honor its commitment to the liberal arts tradition while staying in tune with 21st-century student needs. **H**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Of the 6 regional accrediting agencies, North Central is the largest, certifying nearly 1,000 schools from 19 states.

In addition to institutional accreditation, 8 specific programs at Harding have specialized accreditation or certification.

24 other administrators, faculty and staff served on the steering committee in addition to the writing committee members.

By the end of the summer, the writing committee had produced a document of 114 pages that argues Harding's fulfillment of the Higher Learning Commission's criteria, and 100 pages that serve as a resource document supporting the report.

The University's assessment program annually produces more than 150 reports covering all the academic areas and most of the administrative and support areas.



# What's with all the pomp and circumstance?

By JENNIFER LASHLEY

**F**OR MOST STUDENTS, THE WALK ACROSS THE STAGE to receive their diploma represents a far greater bridge being crossed. ■ Often, graduation Saturday signifies the crowning accomplishment in a student's life. Some individuals are the first in their family to go to college, much less finish. Many are nontraditional students who have raised families, had careers, and have sought a change. Others come from families with three or four generations who have graduated from the University. Whatever the circumstance, the ceremony is a

big deal — especially for the parents. And to help make this day memorable, the University prepares months in advance for commencement.

## Get the word out

To let family and friends know the time and place of the big day, announcements are ordered one of three ways. Generic announcements with an inserted card giving the particulars of each graduation are kept in stock in the University bookstore year-round. Personalized announcements can be ordered from the Heriff Jones representative when he is on campus measuring for caps and gowns. They also can be ordered from Harding Press, the campus print shop. Some students enlist the help of their graphic designer friends and create their own announcements.

Around 3,000 generic announcements are sold in the bookstore each year, at least 2,000 personalized announcements are ordered from Heriff Jones, and anywhere from 2,500 to 7,500 are printed at Harding Press.

Approximately 10,000 programs are produced annually to serve as guides for guests and memorabilia for graduates and their families. The public relations office, in cooperation with the registrar's

office and academic affairs, produces this program. Harding Press prints the programs and turns them around in 48-72 hours.

## Plan ahead

Graduation brings thousand of visitors to Searcy, many of whom stay overnight. As a result, the demand for hotel rooms is great, and reservations need to be made far in advance. The on-campus hotel, the Heritage Inn, begins taking reservations at 6 a.m. Sept. 1 for the May commencement and 6 a.m. March 1 for the December ceremony.

## Arrive early

The fall and summer ceremonies take place in Benson Auditorium, but the large size of the spring graduation calls for a bigger facility, Ganus Athletic Center. All commencement ceremonies took place in the Benson until May 1999 when the size of the graduating class mandated a move. A ticketed event in the Benson was considered, but concerns regarding the number of guests per student fostered the move to the Ganus.

While the Benson seats 3,500, the Ganus holds 5,000 in the bleachers, in addition to 1,088 chairs set up for the graduates and the elderly. The con-

structed stage in the Ganus measures 40 feet by 16 feet; the Benson stage measures approximately 72 feet by 21 feet at its deepest point. Four steps lead to the Ganus stage, while candidates climb five in the Benson.

## Smile for the camera

A host of flashbulbs go off during the ceremony as relatives and friends mark the day in pictures. A professional photographer is also on hand to shoot each student as he or she crosses the stage and shakes hands with President David Burks. In the last year alone, the campus photographer used 33 rolls of film for a total of 943 photos during the three commencement ceremonies combined.

Since Burks took office in 1987, he has congratulated thousands of students as they receive their diplomas. Theoretically, he may have shaken as many as 14,867 hands!

## Turn your tassel

Although college graduates are less likely that high school grads to hang their tassels on rearview mirrors, there is still pride in turning one's tassel to show completion of school. Each degree's tassel is a different color, as became the custom in the late 1800s to designate areas





of study. At Harding, each degree is represented by the following colors:

- Bachelor of arts (arts, humanities, sciences): *white*
- Bachelor of science (arts, humanities, sciences): *golden yellow*
- All College of Bible and Religion degrees: *scarlet*
- All College of Business Administration degrees: *drab — a light olive brown*
- All College of Education degrees: *light blue*
- Bachelor of fine arts: *brown*
- Bachelor of music education: *pink*
- Bachelor of science in nursing: *apricot*
- Bachelor of social work: *citron — a bright orange*
- Bachelor of science in medical technology: *kelly green*

## Know the facts

*How do the students know when to stand and sit? When do the men know to remove their caps?*

The Thursday before the ceremony, candidates for degrees attend a practice session. During this time, they review where to sit, when to stand, how to file in and out, how to wear the cap and gown, when to turn the tassel, and how to approach and walk across the stage.

*What about students receiving more than one degree?*

Students receiving more than one bachelor's degree will be listed twice in the commencement program and are allowed to walk twice. This is the rare occasion.

Although many students have two majors, most of these fall under the same degree. For example, a student majoring in economics and accounting only receives one bachelor of

business administration degree. *What do all those Latin words mean?* Each designation stands for a different level of honors, determined by each university. At Harding, the designations are as follows:

- Cum Laude (with praise or distinction), at least a 3.50 GPA
- Magna Cum Laude (with great distinction), at least a 3.75 GPA
- Summa Cum Laude (with highest

praise or distinction), at least a 3.90 GPA

*Where's my diploma?*

When graduates cross the stage and shake hands with the president, they are only handed a diploma cover. After the ceremony, students drop by the Administration Building to receive their actual diplomas.

## Address the crowd

Commanding an audience of fidgety grads and nervous parents is a challenging job. But commencement would not be the same without a speaker to encourage students as they venture out and face new challenges. The University has secured many talented speakers, some well-known throughout the country.

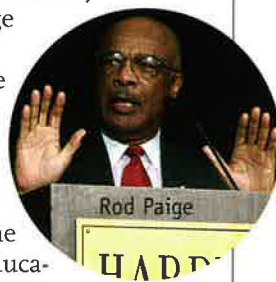
In May 2004, U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige implored the graduating class of 589 to take action and fight against indifference. Approaching the subject with humor, he placed emphasis on the value of continuing education throughout one's life.

"Welcome to the beginning of your education!

"Now parents, don't worry. I'm not suggesting you might get another tuition bill in the mail. Right now you may be thinking of Bill Cosby's old line: 'Commencement means to go forth — and 'forth' is not back home!'

"No, what I am talking about is life-long learning. As the great basketball coach John Wooden once said, 'It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.'

"Never stop learning. If you stop learning, you stop growing." **H**



## May speakers through the years

- 2004: **Rod Paige**  
U.S. Secretary of Education
- 2003: **Lynne Cheney**  
wife of Vice President Dick Cheney, author
- 2001: **Asa Hutchinson**  
former congressman and DEA head, now undersecretary for Homeland Security
- 1999: **Mike Huckabee**  
governor of Arkansas
- 1997: **Tim Hutchinson**  
former senator
- 1993: **Gene Stallings**  
former NFL coach
- 1990: **Dale Bumpers**  
former senator and Arkansas governor





Send your alumni news to "Connections," Harding University Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-0001; or e-mail [alumninews@harding.edu](mailto:alumninews@harding.edu). To subscribe to the weekly e-mail listserv *Alumni Digest*, send message, including your name and class year, to [alumni-list@harding.edu](mailto:alumni-list@harding.edu). You may post messages to the *Digest* at the same address.

## 1958

**Robert J. Grissom** retired as a disabled veteran and serves as a consultant in sociology, criminal justice and secondary education. He has been listed in *Who's Who in the World* and *Who's Who in American Education* and has received an FBI commendation and the VFW Democracy Award, among others. He and his wife, Mildred, have three children. (720 N.E. 45 St., Ocala, FL 34479)

## 1959

**Russell L. Johnson** retired from Civitan Services in Benton, Ark., where he managed a sheltered workshop and a life skills program for the developmentally disabled. He is a shepherd at Crosswalk Family of God in Little

Rock. (2216 Alcoa Road, Benton, AR 72015)

## 1960

**Sylvia Johnson Harris** retired after teaching 43 years in the health and physical education department at Freed-Hardeman University. She set the record as the longest continuous full-time teacher in the history of the school. She and her husband, Glenn, have two children. (829 O'Neal Lane, Henderson, TN 38340)

## 1962

**Bob Privitt** retired from Pepperdine University after a 40-year teaching career, which included two years at Harding from 1964-66. He was honored this spring with a solo art show in the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art. He has been an artist-in-residence at Pepperdine since 2002 and served as director of the Pepperdine University Art Gallery from 1981-91. He was the Harriet and Charles Luckman Distinguished Teaching Fellow in 1992-93 and the 1995 Faculty Member of the Year. His works have been chosen by jury for inclusion in more than 100 national and re-

gional exhibitions. (2161 Ruskin Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360)

## 1964

**Bob Brewer** is the minister for the Oxford Church of Christ. He spent 11 years as a professional speaker and management consultant. He and his wife, **Linda Lee** ('64), have two sons. (11 C.R. 4015, Oxford, MS 38655)

## 1965

**Jim Chester** has been included in *Who's Who in America*, 2004. He is the chorus director at Harding Academy in Memphis, Tenn., where his wife, **Julie Williams**, is the librarian. (4408 Cherrydale Road, Memphis, TN 38117)

**William Short** has been granted a sabbatical for the fall of 2004. He is the department chair and professor of modern languages at McMurry University. (16 Lakewood Drive, Abilene, TX 79603)

## 1969

**Aleta Emmerich Fears** received her doctorate in education administration and supervision at the University of Virginia Jan. 5. She and her husband, Kenneth, have three children. (1200

Long Branch Lane, Scottsburg, VA 24589)

**Susan Anoerson Harris** retired after 35 years of service in the California Public School System as an administrator. (5966 Fremont Circle, Camorillo, CA 93012)

**Granville Sewell** has been appointed a visiting professor at Texas A&M University-College Station for the 2004-05 school year. He is a professor of mathematics at the University of Texas-El Paso. (4534 Emory Road, El Paso, TX 79922)

**Donna Cheek Wear** retired in May 2003 after teaching elementary physical education for 33 years. Her husband, Walter, is also retired. (201 Perry St., Energy, IL 62933)

## 1974

**Laurie S. Bigham** is vice president/chief nurse executive at St. John's Medical Center. (5966 Fremont Circle, Camorillo, CA 93012)

**James B. Trotter** was named a Fellow of the American Dental Society at its convention in Hawaii. He was installed in May as the president of the Fifth District Dental Association of

## PROFILE: DICK HOMARD 1951

### Age is a state of mind

At 77, Richard "Dick" Homard says he is too old to go back to school. Funny, coming from someone who was 71 when he received his Ph.D. in applied science.

"It was something I had wanted to do for a long time, but I would have had to quit my job," Homard says of pursuing the advanced degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. So, three years after he retired in 1992 as director of long-range financial planning for Arkansas Power and Light, he began the course work for his Ph.D.

"It had been 50 years since I got my bachelor's degree," he says. "The first year was a little bit hard since I had to learn how to study again. After I got accustomed to it, I did alright." The degree took three school years and four summers.

Homard began his studies at Harding in the fall of 1947 in pre-engineering. He refers to Dr. Joe Pryor — his instructor for physics and advanced math — as his mentor. "He got me started right," he



says. "He is a brilliant person." Since Harding did not offer the full degree at the time, he transferred to the University of Arkansas, where he earned the bachelor's and master's degrees.

In the years since he received his Ph.D., Homard has not slowed down much. He has tutored struggling algebra students at Hall High School in Little Rock, is the outgoing president of the

Central Arkansas chapter of Sigma XI scientific research society, and is a past president of the Fayetteville chapter of the Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineers. He and his wife, Margie Wayne Brown, ('48) play golf and bridge, and he traces his genealogy.

And the past several months he has spent — in the classroom. He has been working with Drs. James Mackey and Ed Wilson and their students to build a Raman spectrometer that they will use to measure the exhaust plumes of rocket motors and study the motors' efficiency. The spectrometer will also be able to measure the engines' impact on the environment. In addition, Homard is writing a computer program that will control four different scientific instruments.

"It is an enjoyable time," Homard says, proving that one is never too old to learn or to teach others. **H**

— April D. Fatula

With contributions from Heber Taylor



Kansas. He and his wife, Sandy, have two children. (12028 Goddard, Overland Park, KS 66213)

## 1976

**Larry Franke** graduated with his master of arts in library science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in May. He works in special collections (local history and genealogy) for the St. Louis County Library Headquarters. (13642A Riverway Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63017)

**Richard E. Paine** received North Central College's top teaching award, the \$2,500 Clarence F. Dissinger Memorial Award for distinguished teaching by a senior faculty member, for the second time May 21. A professor of speech communication and theater and director of forensics, he joined the North Central faculty in 1983. (25 N. Eagle, Naperville, IL 60540)

## 1977

**Carl Powell III** and his wife, **Susan Harris** ('75), own and operate Computer Consultants of North Alabama, a consulting firm in its eighth year. They are members at Mayfair Church of Christ in Huntsville, Ala., where Carl assists in the computer, audiovisual and Hispanic ministries. (106 Wynfrey Court, Harvest, AL 35749)

## 1979

**Debbie Bisbee Riley** received her master's in library and media technology in 2000 from the University of Central Arkansas. She is an elementary teacher in Searcy Public Schools and an adjunct at Harding. Her husband, **Douglas**, is a manager at Ridout Lumber Co. They have two children. (506 E. Center, Searcy, AR 72143)

## 1980

**Garry Baccus** was promoted to colonel in 2003 and is director of plans for the 7th Air Force. He and his wife, Kim, and their two children live on the Osan Air Base in Korea. (P.S.C. 3, Box 1645, A.P.O. A.P. CA 96266-0016)

**Larry Stamps** is teaching elementary physical education in Searcy Public Schools and coaching ninth-grade football and girls basketball as well as senior high girls soccer. His wife, **LaNelle Moser**, is working for the Upward Bound Program at Harding. They have a son. (123 E. Eden Park, Searcy, AR 72143)

## 1981

**E.C. Umberger** became a regional account manager for Texas Cable News/Belo Corp. in August 2003. He was previously a senior account manager with KXAS television. He and his wife, **Jo Matthews** ('82), have a son. (1422 Sunscape Way, Garland, TX 75043)

## 1982

**Charles Savage** received a performance of his "Mad Rush to the End" at the Society of Composers District 6 Conference in Jonesboro, Ark., in January. He also has received performances of his incidental musical compositions at the Zanesville Community Theatre. In February, he was honored with the 2004 Medal of Merit in Arts Award from Ohio Valley College. He is an adjunct instructor of music at Ohio University-Zanesville. (110 Parkwood Ave., South Zanesville, OH 43701)

**Cyndie Stills Hearn** is an elementary principal in the Western Grove School District. She received an Ed.S. degree in educational administration in 2000. Cyndie also works as an adjunct for Harding's College of Education, teaching courses in the master's and specialist programs in off-campus locations around the state. Her husband, **Jeff**, is owner and chief executive officer of North Star Management. They have two daughters. (P.O. Box 936, Harrison, AR 72602)

## 1983

**Marquita Sturch Goree** was named 2004 Teacher of the Year for Pangburn School and from Wal-Mart. She was also nominated for a Presidential Award in math. (22 River Drive Estates S., Pangburn, AR 72121)

**Darrell Truitt** is an application specialist for Scitex Vision America. He and his wife, Heidi, are actively involved in a global nonprofit ministry they helped start called Caring for Others. They have two children. (2402 Margay Drive N.W., Kennesaw, GA 30152)

## 1984

**Denise Montgomery Fisher** is the recipient of the 2004-05 Jewel L. Taylor National Fellowship, awarded by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. The fellowship is used to provide financial support for continued studies toward a Ph.D. in family and consumer sciences

education at Iowa State University. She is a teacher in the Beebe, Ark., School District. She and her husband, Tom, have three sons. (22 Woodcrest, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Tod J. Martin** recently completed the Leadership York training program. He is director of admissions at York College. He and his wife, **Dana Jones** ('95), have a son. (825 Kiplinger, York, NE 68467)

## 1986

**Bob Swenson** graduated from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock in December 2003 with a master's in vocational rehabilitation counseling. He is working for Veterans Affairs in Shreveport, La. (301 Crockett St., # 408, Shreveport, LA 71105)

## 1987

**David Null** was named one of the "Top 40 Young Business Leaders" by the *Business Journal*. He works for Merrill Lynch as a financial adviser. He and his wife, Amy, have two children. (3335 Old Montgomery Highway, Birmingham, AL 35209)

## 1988

**Barry Ford** is a teacher and coach at Clayton High School. He and his wife, Rosalyn, have three children. (1452 Farmington Court, St. Louis, MO 63146)

## 1990

**Henry Alegria** was elected to tenure by the Board of Regents of California Lutheran University. He is an associate professor of chemistry. His wife is **Maureen Young** ('89). (5754 Penrose Ave., Moorpark, CA 93021)

**Shawn Morgan** has been promoted to East Coast regional manager for Dermalogica. (488 Carter Ave., Atlanta, GA 30317)

## 1991

**Lisa Ort Harris** has released two books this fall, *Michaela's Choice* in September and *Undercover Cowboy* in October. She and her husband, **Scott**, are missionaries in South Africa and have three children. (Pvt. Bag X2, Suite 273, Helderkruijn, South Africa 1733)

## 1993

**Ryan Pace** is serving as a Blackhawk test pilot in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He and his wife, **Tish Elliott** ('96), have three children. (3682 S. 125th Road, Bolivar, MO 65613)

## 1994

**John Perry** is the head football coach for Kosciusko High School, where he was named "2004 Newsmaker of the Year." His wife, **Stephanie Brothers** ('95), is a teacher at Kosciusko Junior High. They have a daughter. (Route 1, Box 96R, Kosciusko, MS 39090)

## 1995

**Keith Brumley** is minister for Northtown Church in Milwaukee, Wis. He and his wife, Margaret, have three children. (8226 N. Celina St., Milwaukee, WI 53224)

## 1996

**Robert Seesengood** earned a Ph.D. in biblical studies at Drew University in May. He received the Weltman prize for excellence in biblical scholarship. He is remaining at Drew for the 2004-05 academic year as visiting scholar in early Christianity and adjunct professor of New Testament. He and his wife, Amanda, worship at the Chatham Church of Christ, where he is associate minister and religious education director. They have a daughter. (38 Southern Blvd., Chatham, NJ 07928)

## 1997

**Candice Ortals-Wiser** received her Ph.D. in political science from Indiana University. She is an assistant professor at Pepperdine University. Her husband, **James** ('00), is lead archivist at Toyota Motor Sales USA. (24506 Mariposa Circle, Malibu, CA 90265)

**Autumn Sutherland** received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Purdue University in 2003. She has completed her first year of teaching in the Department of Chemistry at Abilene Christian University. (857 Chanticleers Lane, Abilene, TX 79602)

**Kerry Beth Woods**, a third-grade teacher with Longview Schools, was selected Teacher of the Year for her campus and Elementary Teacher of the Year for the district. (217 Conroe, Longview, TX 75604)

## 1998

**Julie Tracy** is working for Tennessee Steel Haulers as an accounts receivable clerk. She is also working part time with the Acapella Co. (336 New Brick Church Pike, Goodlettsville, TN 37072)

## 1999

**Melanie Castleberg** received a





WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ... BOBBY BROUGHTON 1993

## Performing around the world

Bobby Broughton has traveled the world three and a half times. He says, "I've seen everything there is to see."

When Broughton graduated from the University, he was not planning on touring the globe but knew his career would involve theater and performing. The fact that it has included seeing such places as Pompeii, Jerusalem and the Blue Mosque of Istanbul has been an added bonus.

And for the past 11 years, he has performed. Early on, he went to Branson, Mo., where he sang back up for Andy Williams at the Moon River Theater. He then sailed around the world singing for Norwegian Cruise Line and premiered a new ship as a lead singer in Andrew Lloyd Webber's show "Music of the Night."

He spent the last six years in Orlando, Fla., as a principal singer at Disney World, traveling three times to Tokyo Disney Sea to perform. Most recently, he left Florida and moved to Los Angeles, where he worked with Barry Manilow's produc-

tion company, Stiletto Productions. After rehearsing in Los Angeles, he left in August for six months with Holland America Cruise Line, which is taking him to many countries in South America as well as Antarctica.

As a student, Broughton was an announcer for the campus radio station, participated in Homecoming musi-

cals, and, of course, performed every year in Spring Sing. He also sang in Good News Singers and Belles & Beaux and says Dr. Cliff Ganus, professor of music,

served as his inspiration. He recalls the White family's guidance and, specifically, adjunct instructor Laura White Eads for helping him get his break with an opera company.

Though constantly adapting to new cast members and relocating to new places can be hectic at times, Broughton feels such benefits as meeting people from all over the world and traveling far outweigh the stress.

For now, he plans to continue performing but looks forward to one day directing and producing shows. He cannot imagine a different life. He says, "I've been on stage since I was in the sixth grade." **H**

—Jennifer Lashley



Bobby Broughton then (top photo on right) and now

master's degree in political science from Texas Tech University. She received a fellowship and is working on a Ph.D. in political science at the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y.

### 2000

**Jeni Shepherd Allen** graduated from the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine with a doctor of veterinary medicine degree May 14. She is working as a small-animal veterinarian at All Creatures Animal Hospital in Columbia, Mo. Her husband, **James**, is a mechanical engineer with Malicoat-Winslow Engineers. (5801 Thompson Road, Columbia, MO 65202)

**David Duke** and his wife, **Lanny Hardman** ('99), moved to Qatar for 10 months while working for Carnegie Mellon University's branch campus. David is a teaching assistant setting up a research laboratory, and Lanny is a receptionist. She is also telecommuting part time for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

**Bill Moore** was promoted to varsity football offensive coordinator at Northland Christian School. His wife, **Rachel Belcher** ('01), was named Northland Christian's

2003 High School Teacher of the Year. (2938 Loanberry Park Lane, Houston, TX 77014)

**Elizabeth Smith** is an adviser for student publications and teaches in the communication division of Pepperdine University. (11732 Kiowa Ave., #8, Los Angeles, CA 90049)

### 2001

**Megan Callens Eppler** graduated with a master's degree in social work from Florida State University in December 2002. She and her husband, **Chris**, both work for the Veterans Administration in Tampa, Fla., as social workers. (6505 Markstown Drive, Tampa, FL 33617)

**Andrew Levi Sherrill** received a master's degree in psychology May 15 from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He was accepted as the youngest candidate for a doctoral program in education at U.A.L.R. This summer he participated in his fifth mission campaign with Owen Olbricht to the Northeast United States, Russia and Venezuela. (214B Johnson St., Little Rock, AR 72205)

**Tiffany Jenkins Teague** passed the C.E.N., a nationwide certification for emergency nurses. (1101

Otis St., West Monroe, LA 71291)

### 2003

**Daniel Ryan** and his wife, **Amanda Jenkins**, are both working as graphic designers in Fayetteville, Ark. (159 N. Gem Trail, #12, Fayetteville, AR 72701)

## Marriages

**Jason Grace** ('02) to **Angela Allison** ('02), Sept. 7, 2002. (126 Rio Verde Drive, Belleville, IL 62221)

**Sheri Benthall** ('95) to **Marshall Switzer**, Dec. 14, 2002. Sheri is an accounting manager with Gene Burton & Associates, and Marshall is a contractor. (7331 Althorp Way, Nashville, TN 37211)

**Suzanne Hoag** ('02) to **Joseph Steece**, March 1, 2003. (3919 Essex Lane, #321, Houston, TX 77027)

**Rhonald Searcy** ('01) to **Jennifer Stewart** ('00), March 15, 2003. (2 Nottingham Road, #6, Little Rock, AR 72205)

**Dena Permenter** ('95) to **Jarrold DeValle**, March 22, 2003. (2010 Cleveland, A12, Conway, AR 72032)

**Sarah Beth Rawding** ('99) to **Brent Martyn**, May 17, 2003.

(1335 10th Ave., #4, San Francisco, CA 94122)

**Ryan Connell** ('03) to **Josecarlo Hernandez**, May 24, 2003. (55 Fairway Drive, #16E, Miami, FL 33166)

**Kacy Fridell** ('04) to **Timothy Dawson**, May 31, 2003. Kacy is a Title I teacher at Sidney Deener Elementary, and Timothy is a Harding student. (P.O. Box 2026, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Deborah Cooper** ('97) to **Brandon Boss**, June 13, 2003. (456 N. 23rd St., Grand Junction, CO 81501)

**John Grimsley** ('99) to **Emily Binkley** ('01), June 21, 2003. (3530 Nebraska Ave., Nashville, TN 37209)

**Dan McDonie** ('01) to **Jolene Dennis** ('00), June 21, 2003. (2555 Schuster Road, Piketon, OH 45661)

**Charles Owen Evans** ('59) to **Luella Thompson**, June 28, 2003. (R.R. 2, Box 361, Campbell, MO 63933)

**Christy Orr** ('01) to **Cody Oldham**, June 28, 2003. (15 Watson Lane, Bella Vista, AR 72714)

**Sara Baskett** ('01) to **Adam Bryson**, July 19, 2003. (4501 Packard Drive, N5, Nashville, TN 37211)

**Amy McAngus** ('99) to **Michael**





Voorhees, Sept. 20, 2003. Amy received her master's in deaf education and multiple disabilities from Gallaudet University in May 2003. (2750 Old St. Augustine Road, L120, Tallahassee, FL 32301)

**Carolyn Harper** ('98) to William Lyons, Sept. 27, 2003. (4500 Nicholson Road, J13, Vancouver, WA 98661)

**Andrea Driver** ('01) to **Stephen Livingston** ('01), Oct. 4, 2003. (148 S.W. 89th St., #127, Oklahoma City, OK 73139)

**Heather Roberts** ('00) to T.J. Schlittler, Oct. 18, 2003. Heather is a second-grade teacher and team coordinator for Hurst-Euleless-Bedford schools, and T.J. is an electrician. (1705 Vicksburg Drive, Bedford, TX 76022)

**C. Ray Miller** ('46) to **Eva Floyd Green** ('47), Oct. 25, 2003. (10292 Highway 278 West, Nashville, AR 71852)

**Stephen Finley** ('01) to **Britney Copeland** ('02), Nov. 1, 2003. Stephen is working at Lindsey and Co., a software firm in Searcy, and Britney is finishing her graduate work in liberal studies at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. (401 E. Booth Road, #714, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Denise Nissing** ('00) to Tim Shinabery, Nov. 1, 2003. (1328 Flintshire Lane, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367)

**Amanda Cooper** ('03) to Dale Pratt, Nov. 22, 2003. (217 Harper Ridge Place, Antioch, TN 37013)

**Travis G. Rogers** ('90) to **Laura Tucker** ('95), Dec. 13, 2003. (2113 Stoney Pine Court, Fort Collins, CO 80525)

**Andy Cox** ('03) to **Lindsay Young** ('02), Dec. 27, 2003. (1210 Esther Lane, Owatonna, MN, 55060)

**Micah San Juan** ('02) to **Becky Kelly** ('03), Dec. 27, 2003. (5769 Beltline Road, #905, Dallas, TX 75254)

**Peyton Tucker** ('04) to **Yahna Moss** ('03), Dec. 27, 2003. (401 E. Booth Road, #813, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Murray Sanderson** ('90) to Jaime Bond, Feb. 14. Murray is the worship and administration minister at Fairfax Church of Christ, and Jaime is a speech therapist with Fairfax County Public Schools. (4228 Pennsboro Court, Chantilly, VA 20151)

**Chris Barker** ('01) to **Micalynn Parker** ('98), March 6. (702 Fox Ridge Drive, Brentwood, TN 37027)

**Julie Uptegrove** ('02) to Larry

Christensen, March 6. Julie is a registered renal dietitian for Fresenius Medical Center in Houston. (5207 Cinnamon Lake Drive, Baytown, TX 77521)

**Matthew Dabbs** ('00) to **Missy Suggs** ('00), March 13. Matthew and Missy both attend Harding Graduate School of Religion and work for Millington Church of Christ. (5076 Tangle Oaks Drive, #203, Germantown, TN 38134)

**Todd Denoyer** ('95) to Tamra Goode Moore, March 13. (401 Stone Gate, Victoria, TX 77904)

**Joel Johnson** ('02) to **Kim Hobbs** ('02), March 13. (1017 E. Howe Ave., #21, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221)

**Romer Rodriguez** ('98) to **Heather Martin** ('99), March 20. Romer is an information systems analyst, and Heather obtained her master's in nursing as a family nurse practitioner from the University of South Alabama in December 2003. (713 Reinerman, Houston, TX 77007)

**David Blankenship** ('92) to Angela Nauert, March 27. (1415 S. Crawford, Fort Scott, KS 66701)

**Mariann Cox** ('84) to Timothy Snyder, March 27. (6 Barclay Drive, Hockessin, DE 19707)

**Amiee Boyette** ('98) to Darby York, April 19. (4790 Stonewall Crossing, Fayetteville, AR 72203)

**Johann Melgar** ('02) to Rita Toledo, April 26. (5 Cile 5 Ave. Edif Gamez-P Local, #6, San Pedro Sula, Honduras)

**Tammie Green** ('93) to Jay McDowell, May 1. (12175 13th St., #24, Yucaipa, CA 92399)

**Robin Ward** ('00) to Aaron Irving, May 1. Robin completed a master's in performance at the University of Northern Colorado in 2001 and is a professional musician with the San Juan Symphony. (313 N. Chestnut St., Cortez, CO 81321)

**James Nowlin** ('01) to **Anne Fowlkes** ('03), May 22. James graduated from Pepperdine Law School in May. (7826 Grove Lake Court, #102, Germantown, TN 38138)

**Robin Dakin** ('00) to Paul Overman, May 31. (14913 Grand Summit, Grandview, MO 64030)

**Amber Keilers** ('99) to Jacob Gonzales, June 12. (1718 Tynemouth, Pasadena, TX 77504)

**Meredith Williams** ('03) to Jason Graham, June 19. (4625 S. Granite, Tulsa, OK 74135)

## Births

To **Craig** ('90) and **Kara Borchardt** ('92) **Johnson**, a daughter, Abigail Lyn, June 3, 2002. Craig teaches high school math at Greater Atlanta Christian School, and Kara is a homemaker. They have two other daughters, Hannah and Sarah. (2673 Stony Springs Trail, Buford, GA 30519)

To **Bryan** and **Holly Fannin** ('93) **Titsworth**, a son, William Bryan, July 11, 2002. (8713 Briarwood, Rowlett, TX 75088)

To **Brad** ('90) and **Andrea Moorer** ('91) **Altman**, a son, Andrew Rex, Aug. 31, 2002. They have three other children, Nicholas, Nathan and Anna. (1562 Madron, Sevierville, TN 37862)

To **Brian** and **Stacie Flinn** ('91) **Moore**, triplets, Madison Grace, Tyler Jacob and Bailey Nicole, Dec. 6, 2002. (1439 Southern Gardens Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404)

To **Brent** ('98) and **Amberly Tiner** ('98) **Allen**, a daughter, Brooklyn Sky, Dec. 16, 2002. (3824 Noe Lane, Round Rock, TX 78681)

To **Toby** and **Amy Roberson** ('00) **Morrow**, a daughter, Claire Addison, Jan. 9, 2003. (6317 Huntington Place, Abilene, TX 79606)

To **Aaron** ('99) and **Allison Zepeda** ('99) **Bayles**, a daughter, Hope Elisa, Jan. 22, 2003. Aaron is a registered nurse at St. Luke's Hospital. (707 El Dorado Blvd., #1108, Houston, TX 77062)

To **Adam** ('97) and **Patty Lett**, a son, Ethan James, Jan. 24, 2003. Adam received a master's in education administration from William Woods University in Fulton, Mo. (342 Paradise Drive, Noel, MO 64854)

To **Billy** ('90) and **Angie Stipp** ('91) **Shelton**, a daughter, Carlie Faith, Jan. 31, 2003. They have three other daughters, Bailey, Audrey and Ellie. (124 Mohawk Drive, Maumelle, AR 72113)

To **Peter** and **Carol Riddle** ('93) **Thomson**, a daughter, Olivia Cheyenne, Feb. 12, 2003. They also have a son, Adam. (5 Narr Maen Dve, Croydon Hills, Victoria, Australia)

To **Matthew** ('95) and **Jenny Adamson** ('95) **Smith**, a son, Brandon Kerper, Feb. 19, 2003. They also have a daughter, Emma. (1917 W. Arch, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Benjamin** ('97) and **Melody San Juan** ('98) **Behel**, a daughter, Laurel Dominga, Feb. 23, 2003. They also have a son, Christian.

(1529 Mapleton Drive, Dallas, TX 75228)

To **Tim** ('93) and **Tami Billings** ('94) **Yates**, a son, Walker Ransom, March 15, 2003. (1627 S. 69th East Ave., Tulsa, OK 74112)

To **Tim** and **Dawn Pinner** ('93) **Reddell**, a daughter, Ryleigh Erin, March 22, 2003. They also have a son, Ryan Andrew. (11074 Pinner Road, Bentonville, AR 72712)

To **William** ('84) and **Darlene Sellers** ('91) **Batie**, a daughter, Jolene Drew, April 3, 2003. They also have a son, Daniel. (210 Tom Link Road, Cottontown, TN 37048)

To **Brian** and **Jill Stanley** ('98) **Southard**, a son, Noah Zachary, April 17, 2003. (8234 Parkland Hills Drive, San Antonio, TX 78254)

To **Clem** ('97) and **Debby Maul** ('97) **Rosenberger**, a daughter, Elizabeth Marie, April 21, 2003. (Road 7, Box 102A, Kittanning, PA 16201)

To **Timothy** ('92) and **Misty Massie** ('95) **Fantauzzo**, a son, Jack Thomas, May 7, 2003. They have two other children, Edward and Eleanor. (4065 Buffalo Mountain Drive, Loveland, CO 80538)

To **Mike** and **Jill Kinworthy** ('99) **Burcham**, a daughter, Ella Corin, May 26, 2003. They have another daughter, Kyra Nicole. (2706 W. Cardinal St., Springfield, MO 65810)

To **Scott** ('95) and **Tacy Dubach** ('95) **Rutherford**, a son, Tucker Ryan John, May 28, 2003. They have three other children, Shelby, Dawson and Isabelle. Scott graduated from the Reading Hospital School of Nursing June 4. (4621 Sylvan Drive, Reading, PA 19606)

To **Bryan** ('96) and **Keri Cottrill** ('96) **Forney**, a son, Andrew Bryan, June 15, 2003. (3477 Old Lantern Court, Miamisburg, OH 45342)

To **Clint** ('98) and **Lorie Baker** ('97) **Jones**, a daughter, Hannah Lorie, July 4, 2003. Clint received a master's in education from the University of Houston-Victoria in 2001. (13334 W. Brazos Bend Drive, Needville, TX 77461)

To **Larry** and **Tina Dickinson** ('93) **Omdahl**, a daughter, Kelsey Astrid, July 5, 2003. (3412 Corral Creek Drive, McKinney, TX 75070)

To **Tom** and **Susan Holloway** ('94) **McFadden**, a son, Ian Thomas, July 11, 2003. (524 Fenley Ave., Louisville, KY 40222)

To **Derek** and **Ellen Gullick** ('93)





**Evans**, a son, Ethan, July 14, 2003. (6359 Mountain View Lane, Anacortes, WA 98221)

To **David** ('89) and **Bonnie Hol-dren** ('88) **Stevens**, a daughter, Mary, July 20, 2003. David was recently promoted to captain in the U.S. Air Force. They have five other children, Ben, Samuel, Abigail, Esther and Peter. (105 Julia St., Prattville, AL 36066)

To **Brent** ('97) and **Tonya Glosser** ('99) **Morgan**, a son, Ty Delane, Aug. 2, 2003. (108 Lakeway Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

To Clayton and **Laura Hicks** ('92) **Fry**, a son, William Clayton, Aug. 5, 2003. (17 Deerfield Drive, Ward, AR 72176)

To **Josh** ('99) and **Lee Ann Dawson** ('97) **Rutter**, a son, Wilson David, Aug. 7, 2003. They also have a daughter, Adrian. (702 Carroll St., Pocahtontas, AR 72455)

To Jason and **Julia Doan** ('90) **Page**, a son, Jacob Noble, Aug. 8, 2003. They have two other children, Emily and Carrie. (2091 FM 991 E., Texarkana, TX 75501)

To **Wayne** ('00) and **Sherrie Krebs** ('98) **Cook**, a son, Declan Michael, Aug. 21, 2003. They also have a daughter, Alexa. Wayne is working for Fidelity Information Services as a computer programmer, and Sherrie is a homemaker. (14116 Cherry Hill Drive, Alexander, AR 72002)

To **Jeff** ('98) and **Christi Millspaugh** ('96) **Dismang**, a son, Lex Walker, Aug. 22, 2003. (17223 Yellow Rose Way, Parker, CO 80134)

To **David** ('02) and **Bethany McMillion** ('03) **Cook**, a daughter, Eden Grace, Sept. 7, 2003. They have another daughter, Tatum. (369 Church St., Pontotoc, MS 38863)

To Roy and **Kim Maddox** ('94) **Knight**, a son, Daniel, Sept. 16, 2003. They have another son, Gabriel. (316 Behling St., St. George, SC 29477)

To **Jeff** ('97) and **Melissa Gary** ('98) **Jackson**, a son, Tyler Daniel, Sept. 23, 2003. (2108 Southwood Trail, Grand Prairie, TX 75052)

To **John** ('93) and Regina **Weibel**, a daughter, Emily, Sept. 27, 2003. They have another daughter, Amanda. (33451 Bodie Ave., Yucaipa, CA 92399)

To **Goyo** ('03) and **Sarah Shade** ('00) **Nieto**, a daughter, Gisele Elizabeth, Oct. 26, 2003. Goyo is the Spanish minister at Brewer Road Church of Christ. (1325 Murphy Lane, Winston Salem, NC 27104)

To **Carter** ('95) and **Holly Paul** ('95) **Davis**, a daughter, Hannah Beth, Oct. 27, 2003. (7501 Peachtree Trail, North Richland Hills, TX 76180)

To **Greg** ('95) and **Jennifer Helms** ('95) **Fulk**, a son, Caden, Oct. 27, 2003. They have another son, Christian. (5524 Wesley Drive, Milton, FL 32570)

To **Robert** ('95) and **Donda Bates** ('00) **Burright**, a daughter, Megan Dai, Nov. 6, 2003. Robert is chief operating officer for RHD Memorial Hospital. They also have a son, Carson. (403 Dillard Lane, Coppell, TX 75019)

To **Layton** ('00) and **Summer Allison** ('99) **Dale**, a daughter, Macy Caroline, Nov. 6, 2003. They have another daughter, Ansley. (4501 Lance Drive, Flower Mound, TX 75022)

To **Chris** ('95) and **Tricia Turner** ('98) **Kauffman**, a daughter, McKinley Kathrynne, Nov. 8, 2003. Chris is an accountant, and Tricia is a Creative Memories consultant and homemaker. (348 Thurman Weir Road, McRae, AR 72102)

To **Josh** ('98) and **Jean Massie** ('99) **Bostic**, a son, William Daniel, Nov. 18, 2003. (1650 Hayne, Memphis, TN 38119)

To **Tod** ('95) and **Jan Baskett** ('95) **Traugher**, a son, Camryn Reid, Nov. 20, 2003. They have another son, Brayden. (1207 Vera Cruz, Memphis, TN 38117)

To **Mack** ('82) and **Vicki Peat** ('86) **Wallace**, a son, Wade McKinnon, Nov. 21, 2003. They have another son, Reed. (117 Cherokee Drive, Maumelle, AR 72113)

To **Stuart** ('97) and **Mary Kay Lemons** ('97) **Hill**, a son, Tyler Payton, Nov. 22, 2003. They have another son, Andrew. (100 Apache Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

To Craig and **Allyson Olliff** ('94) **Sheumaker**, a son, Cameron Todd, Nov. 23, 2003. They have two other children, Blake and Sophie. (6013 Inglewood Court, Bossier City, LA 71111)

To **Eugene** ('99) and **Shannon Taylor** ('99) **Atha**, a son, Eugene Alan III, Nov. 24, 2003. (12699 Buckingham Creek St., Parker, CO 80134)

To **David** ('93) and **Mary McWilliams** ('93) **Hickman**, a daughter, Corinne Elyse, Nov. 28, 2003. They have another daughter, Emily. (9428 Pendleton Court, Frisco, TX 75034)

To **Ashley** ('90) and **Sara Smith** ('91) **Ross**, a son, Preston Sterling, Dec. 11, 2003. They also have a daughter, Aubrey-Anne.

## Associated Women for Harding: 40 years and growing stronger

By LIZ HOWELL, director of alumni relations

With a rich heritage of generous giving, Associated Women for Harding began its 40th year with renewed spirit and commitment to the goal of providing need-based scholarships to first-year students at the University.



Liz Howell

Under the direction and guidance of the National Council, the board meets three times a year to evaluate and discuss the overall purpose, aims and objectives of AWH. To ensure future success, our leaders evaluate current projects and look for ways to work smartly and more efficiently. As an organization, AWH wants to accomplish the following goals:

- Increase membership
- Engage current members in service
- Attract people to our events
- Offer products that people want to buy
- Raise more money for scholarships
- Change perceptions about the organization
- Educate others about the mission and service of AWH

Exciting things are happening with AWH. At a recent garden party in Searcy, more than 70 women celebrated the past, present and future of AWH. Thirty of the 39 past-presidents of the Searcy chapter were present and honored for their dedication and service. Christine Walker, owner of *Searcy Living* magazine, attended and said, "Many times people do things because they will get something in return. These women give with no strings attached because of their belief in Christian education and the difference it makes in a student's life."

One group of retired women who call themselves "Pins" makes heirloom quilts for AWH and donates the proceeds to the scholarship program. Pins will contract a beautiful quilt to your specifications.

We have a new project featuring a private-label Harding Coffee. See related article on Page 7.

The Harding volunteer base is one of the strengths of AWH. Currently, women and men throughout the country are being encouraged to join this worthy cause. Membership is \$25 annually and may be sent to AWH, Harding University, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149. Please get involved. For more information, contact [awh@harding.edu](mailto:awh@harding.edu) or visit the Web site at [www.harding.edu/awh](http://www.harding.edu/awh). **H**

### AWH membership levels

At-large (\$25)
Fellow or Mighty Men (\$25)
Marie Yingling Legacy (\$100)
Claudia Petty Patron (\$500)
Sue Roper Memorial (\$1,000)
Deanna Smith Memorial (\$2,500)
Louise Ganus Legacy (\$5,000)

(946 Caldwell Lane, Nashville, TN 37204)

To Perry and **Dianne Romer** ('91) **Dodge**, a daughter, Hannah Elizabeth, Dec. 12, 2003. (1428 Hudson Landing, St. Charles, MO 63303)

To **Kevin** ('99) and **Jenny Legg** ('99) **Wilkinson**, a daughter, Lucy Emma, Dec. 15, 2003. (P.O. Box 1545, Myrtle Creek, OR 97457)

To Grey and **Stephanie Bailey** ('92) **Burge**, a daughter, Sydney Joyce, Dec. 16, 2003. (204 Florida Ave., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561)

To **Darren** ('97) and **Heather Elliott** ('93) **Barber**, a son, Myles Callahan, Dec. 22, 2003. (300 N. Sawmill Road, Searcy, AR 72143)

To Sean and **Martha Lacoss** ('88) **Wersch**, a son, Seth Isaac, Dec. 31, 2003. They also have twin



sons, Samuel and Joseph. (12480 E. Pacific Circle, A, Aurora, CO 80014)

To **Jonathan** ('98) and **Corrie Brown** ('00) **Albright**, a daughter, Ainsley Renee, Jan. 1. (119 Prospect Trail, North Little Rock, AR 72118)

To **Scott** ('95) and **Amanda McKnight** ('97) **Baine**, a son, Elijah Alexander, Jan. 8. (Viale Jonio, 286, 00141, Roma, Italy)

To **Bryan** ('96) and **Tracey McCormick** ('96) **Ries**, a son, Owen, Jan. 12. They have two other sons, Isaac and Graham. (B.P. 801, Kara, Togo, West Africa)

To David and **Donna Sanford** ('97) **Eidsmoe**, a daughter, Elizabeth, Jan. 14. (450 Mountain View Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455)

To **Jonathan** ('97) and **Leslie Daniel** ('99) **Echols**, a daughter, Addie Marie, Jan. 17. They also have a son, Ethan. (592 Marsh Lane, Oxford, AL 36203)

To **Nathan** ('04) and **Stephanie Shannon** ('02) **Lang**, a son, Clayton, Jan. 19. Nathan is a chemistry and physics teacher at Westbury Christian, and Stephanie is a kindergarten teacher there. (12840 S. Kirkwood, #427, Stafford, TX 77477)

To **John** ('87) and **Dawn Helm** ('89) **Gilreath**, a son, Campbell Ray, Jan. 28. They have two other sons, Spencer and Jackson. John is a business systems analyst with AutoZone, and Dawn is a part-time area coordinator for Hands-On-Science. (8480 Edney Ridge Drive, Cordova, TN 38018)

To **Jason** ('98) and **Jessica Stipp** ('97) **Fulmer**, a daughter, Abby Jean, Jan. 29. (2499 Prairie Hill Drive, Frisco, TX 75034)

To Russell and **Kristy Dalton** ('92) **Quattlebaum**, a daughter, Aniya, Feb. 1. They also have a son, Colby. (201 Autumnbrook Circle, Sherwood, AR 72120)

To David ('96) and **Amy Wiley** ('98) **Parks**, a daughter, Josie Lee, Feb. 5. (105 Coteswood Court, Columbia, TN 38401)

To Graylon and **Chrystal Nickels** ('96) **Miller**, a son, Caden Michael, Feb. 6. They have two other children, Nathan and Sydney. (13 Woodbridge Drive, Conway, AR 72034)

To Michael and **Pam Peachey** ('91) **Rossi**, a daughter, Rachel Anne, Feb. 6. (11 Turtle Creek Court, Little Rock, AR 72211)

To **Curtis** ('89) and **Lisa Pelkey** ('89) **Brodie**, twin daughters, Jenna Kay and Julia Kathleen,

Feb. 13. They have three other children, Dakota, Channing and Molly. (28100 County Road 27, Daphne, AL 36526)

To Trey and **Michelle Marcum** ('96) **Tindel**, a son, Brandon James, Feb. 14. They also have a daughter, Kelli Danielle. (3308 Zinfandel Lane, Leander, TX 78641)

To Charles and **Rebecca Shannon** ('86) **Dorris**, a daughter, Zena Ting, Feb. 15, by adoption. She was born Dec. 5, 2002, in Gansu, China. They have another daughter, Zara Wen. (6101 Johnson Chapel Road, Brentwood, TN 37027)

To **Neil** ('97) and **Jill Anderson** ('95) **Ford**, a son, Tucker Anderson, Feb. 24. They have two other sons, Alex and Westin. (4013 Brookside Drive, Columbia, TN 38401)

To **Kevin** ('95) and **Leslie Burns** ('97) **Laws**, a daughter, Lauren Ann, Feb. 25. (2904 Emily Drive, Nixa, MO 65714)

To **Brandon** ('98) and **Kim Smith**, twins, Lilly Kate and Lane Earl, Feb. 25. (9165-39 Nesbit Ferry Road, Alpharetta, GA 30022)

To Trevis and **Lara West** ('97) **Smith**, a daughter, Avery Noelle, March 4. They have two other children, Claire and Jorden. (1914 N.E. 150th St., Vancouver, WA 98686)

To **Randy** ('99) and **Beth Moss** ('00) **Whitman**, a daughter, Abigail Elizabeth, March 4. (235 High Chaparral Drive, Goodlettsville, TN 37072)

To Doug and **Lori Stephens** ('87) **Stewart**, a daughter, Morgan Marie, March 6. (563 Blackjack Mountain Road, Romance, AR 72136)

To **Tom** ('96) and **Stacy Schaffer** ('97) **Boyle**, a daughter, Ava Louise, March 7. They have another daughter, Addison. Tom is a construction manager for HCA Healthcare, and Stacy is a homemaker. (1711 Satinwood Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129)

To Brad and **Jennifer Kendrick** ('92) **Smith**, a son, Braden Parker, March 9. (P.O. Box 149, Minden, LA 71058)

To **Jody** ('96) and **Louise Fry** ('86) **Venkatesan**, a son, Philip Andrew, March 9. They also have two daughters, Bethanne and Emily. (8810 Castlebury Court, Laurel, MD 20723)

To **Ryan** ('98) and **Katie Dixon** ('98) **Hollis**, a daughter, Brylie Kate, March 12. They also have a son, Elijah Cade. (203 Adele Cove, Marion, AR 72364)

To **Josh** ('99) and **Stephanie Smith** ('97) **Dyniewski**, a daughter, Kaylie Madison, March 19. (1212 Longhorn, Lewisville, TX, 75067)

To **Todd** ('95) and **Andria Sisson** ('96) **Bittle**, a daughter, Hattie Mae, April 1. They also have a son, Spencer. (322 May Ave., Fort Smith, AR 72901)

To Jason and **Valerie Gilliam** ('93) **Speed**, a daughter, Abigail, April 3. They also have two sons, Wyatt and Cody. (8393 Drury Lane, Germantown, TN 38139)

To **Shannon** ('94) and **Tracy Harvey** ('94) **Simmons**, a daughter, Sophie, April 5. They have four other children, Meredith, Carter, Claire and Hunter. (3604 E. 25th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103)

To **Lee** ('95) and **Jenny Jackson** ('96) **Edwards**, a daughter, Lillian Elisabeth, April 6. They also have a son, Jackson. Lee is a teacher with Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, and Jenny is a homemaker. (5049 Dovecote Drive, Nashville, TN 37220)

To **David** ('92) and **Carmen Newcomb** ('93) **Bell**, a daughter, Olivia Inez, April 8. They have another daughter, Laney. (4432 N. Racine, #2S, Chicago, IL 60640)

To Joe and **Yvette Sutcliffe** ('91) **Pekinpaugh**, a daughter, Jasmine Victoria, April 8. They have three other children, Jonas, Megan and Caleb. (14525 Old State Road 37, Tell City, IN 47586)

To Jeff and **Amy Roeh** ('97) **Wood**, a son, Landon Michael, April 10. (3721 Gardenia Lane, McKinney, TX 75070)

To Jerry and **Syrena Burch** ('90) **Moore**, a son, Brody Allen, April 13. (148 Homestead Place, Hendersonville, TN 37075)

To **Randy** ('97) and **LaRae Crawford** ('98) **Price**, a daughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, April 13. (2045 E. Branch Hollow Drive, Carrollton, TX 75007)

To Anthony and **Angela Luttrell** ('97) **Bush**, a son, Tyler, April 19. (4723 South Cathay Court, Aurora, CO 80015)

To **Trevor** ('94) and **Jennifer Neuhart** ('95) **Black**, a daughter, Camden, April 21. They have three other children, Sydney, Easton and Boston. (129 Mill St., Senecaville, OH 43780)

To **John** ('93) and **Tracey Boles**, a daughter, Briley Hope, April 21. They have two other children, Hayden and Jacey. (223 Oakwood Circle, Shady Shores, TX 76208)

To **Tom** ('95) and **Jennifer Silva** ('97) **Gaskins**, a son, Thomas

Charles, April 21. They also have a daughter, Sadie. (36 Council Road, Venus, FL 33960)

To **Sean** ('99) and **Alicia Welch** ('98) **Mills**, a son, Samuel Austin, April 21. (2512 Knoxville Ave., Lubbock, TX 79410)

To **Tom** ('96) and **Kathy Shappard** ('95) **Wright**, a daughter, Anna Kate, April 23. (5388 Rappahannock Drive, Memphis, TN 38134)

To **Todd** ('98) and **Stacey Baysinger** ('99) **Hopkins**, a son, Luke David, April 29. Todd is working with the Florida Army National Guard, and Stacey is a homemaker. (16 Kristin Lane, Eustis, FL 32726)

To Airl and **Elizabeth Schuhknecht** ('01) **Cheek**, a daughter, Mary Kathryn Elizabeth, May 2. (37 Crestway, Gassville, AR 72635)

To **Paul** ('98) and **Amy Cash** ('98) **Johnson**, a daughter, Claire Michal, May 3. (307 New Melville Road, Willard, MO 65781)

To John and **Tammy White** ('92) **Salisbury**, a son, Luke Casten, May 4. They also have a daughter, Leah. (128 N. Seashore Ave., Long Beach, MS 39560)

To **Jonathan** ('02) and **Leslie Patterson** ('99) **Neely**, a daughter, Avery Caroline, May 5. (7528 Los Padres Trail, Fort Worth, TX 76137)

To Trey and **Christi Davis** ('97) **Thompson**, a daughter, Emma Christine, May 5. (8710 Huntersfield Lane, La Porte, TX 77571)

To **Jason** ('97) and **Catherine Anderson** ('97) **Cravy**, a daughter, Arden Elizabeth, May 6. They have two other children, Tynan and Emma Mae. (310 Cartersville St., Canton, GA 30114)

To **Usenime** ('97) and **Inemesit Akpanudo**, a son, Sikanimo, May 8. (2873 Golfside Drive, #64, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

To **Lathan** ('98) and **Kimberly Knight** ('98) **Watts**, a daughter, McKenna Deborah, May 14. (1221 Longhorn Drive, Lewisville, TX 75067)

To **Brian** ('96) and **Ann Bartak** ('96) **Harrington**, a daughter, Delaney Lynn, May 15. (3130 S. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68502)

To Joe and **Andrea Reed** ('99) **Wilson**, a daughter, Reed Allison, May 16. (4486 Whisper Drive, Pensacola, FL 32504)

To **Derek** ('99) and **Kim Poe** ('97) **Reaves**, a son, Barrett Houston, May 19. (7109 Gentle Oak Drive, Austin, TX 78749)

To Jason and **Shannon Farley**





('95) **Bowman**, a son, Cameron, May 20. They have another son, Chase. (2277 Andover, Springdale, AR 72762)

To Brian and **Lisa Schneider** ('00) **Hirscheider**, a son, Noah Alan, May 20. (608 Windwood Drive, Beebe, AR 72012)

To Jeff and **Becky Hinton** ('98) **Shafer**, a son, Trevor Wayne, May 25. They also have a daughter, Lily. (3500 Daniel Road, Lincoln, NE 68506)

To **Tim** ('94) and **Tamara Nickels** ('98) **Stanley**, a daughter, Melody Grace, May 26. They have another daughter, Aubrey. (6513 S. 106th E. Place, #371, Tulsa, OK 74133)

To **Ethan** ('96) and **Ashley House** ('94) **Sheffield**, a daughter, McKenney Grace, June 2. They have two other children, Meredith and Stone. (209 Live Oak, Searcy, AR 72143)

To **Daniel** ('00) and **Rachael Williams** ('00) **Cherry**, a son, Corban Thomas, June 4. (Harding University, Box 10332, Searcy, AR 72149)

To P.J. and **April Valentine** ('98) **Ash**, a daughter, Ellen June, June 7. They also have a son, Jacob. (1785 Gatewood Drive, Deltona, FL 32738)

To **David** ('85) and **Kathy Wilson** ('86) **Hardin**, a son, Gabriel, June 7. They have seven other children, Seth, Jacob, Caleb, Elijah, Abigail, John Mark and Hannah Grace. (3449 Calista Road, White House, TN 37188)

To **John** ('91) and **Tammy Todd** ('93) **Kodatt**, a son, Keyton David, June 7. They also have two daughters, Kylie and Kinsey. (1649 Robert Road, Columbia, TN 38401)

To **Eric** ('00) and **Stephanie Citty** ('99) **Schwietzer**, a daughter, Hayley Nicole, June 8. (1341 Ridgefield Circle, Chattanooga, TN 37412)

To **Kevin** ('96) and **Jenny Evans** ('98) **Jensen**, a daughter, Naomi Irene, June 12. (1581 Sunset Way, Cowiche, WA 98923)

To **Paul** ('96) and **Elizabeth Barr**, a son, Lukas Grant, June 15. (4885 Mary Sue, Clarkston, MI 48346)

To **John** ('98) and **Kimberly Kell** ('01) **Hodges**, a son, Johnathan Kell, June 20. (7697 Crested Jay Point, Colorado Springs, CO 80922)

To **Marc** ('97) and **Jennifer Walters** ('97) **Childress**, a daughter, Sydney Reese, June 22. Marc is a

family practice resident at St. Louis University, and Jennifer is an assistant professor at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. (3228 Cloverridge Lane, Belleville, IL 62221)

To **Jonathan** ('98) and **Rebecca Hug** ('98) **Dandy**, a son, Samuel Leland, June 24. (11570 S.W. 14th St., Beaverton, OR 97005)

To **Rob** ('01) and **Rachael Parsons** ('03) **O'Lynn**, a son, Caleb Robert, June 25. Rob was awarded the master of arts in theological studies from the Austin Graduate School of Theology May 23. (215 W. North St., Bertram, TX 78605)

To **Kirk** ('94) and **Laura Wade**, a son, Hudson Kyle, July 2. They have two other children, Grant and Halle. (300 Loma Alta Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150)

To Brad and **Laura Miller** ('99) **Davis**, a daughter, Kiley, July 14. They also have a son, Jared. (P.O. Box 593, Judsonia, AR 72081)

## Passages

**Wilton Ray Pate** ('49), 73, died Aug. 16, 2000. He was a teacher and principal for the San Bernardino Unified School District for 35 years. He was a member of the church of Christ, Kiwanis Club, Association of California School Administrators, and the San Bernardino Y'Smen Club and was an Army veteran. Survivors include his wife, E. Colene; two sons, Michael and Ralph; a daughter, **Cathryn Walling** ('79); a stepson, Scott Hoffman; two brothers, Willard and **Don** ('60); and eight grandchildren. (6935 Halsey Court, Lincoln, NE 68516)

**Robert Dee Colvett** ('63), 61, died Jan. 20, 2003, from cancer. He is survived by his wife, Doris; a son, Kevin; and a daughter, Kathy Baker. (418 Russell St., Florence, AL 35633)

**Jeannie Staggs Shobe** ('78), 48, died May 5, 2003. She was a nurse in Chandler, Ariz. Survivors include her husband, **Keith** ('77); her mother, **Sybil Staggs** ('50); a daughter, Christina Marie; and three brothers, James, Mark and Michael.

**James Groves** ('39), 89, died Dec. 6, 2003. He attended Harding from 1935 to 1937 and graduated from the University of Toledo in 1940. He was a minister for 73 years and served eight congregations. He was the first chairman of the Michigan Christian College Board of Trustees and started a

number of congregations in the Detroit area. He is survived by his wife, Irene; three children; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. (27783 Center Drive, Mission Viejo, CA 92692)

**Bonnie Phillips Bernard** ('86), 58, died Jan. 1 from cancer. After her sons were grown, she followed her dream of becoming a nurse and graduated summa cum laude from the College of Nursing. She joined the White River Medical Center as a registered nurse, where she most recently served as director of nursing process and patient relations. She was secretary of the Arkansas State Hospital Auxiliary and was a member of the Arkansas Nurses Association, Beta Sigma Phi Society and First United Methodist Church of Batesville. She is survived by her husband, Dick; two sons, Doug and Tony; a brother, John Phillips; and two grandchildren. (903 Eagle Mountain Blvd., Batesville, AR 72501)

**William O. Baker Jr.** ('46), 79, died Jan. 3. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor. (31404 Berlin Road, Lebanon, OR 97355)

**Edith Johnson Ganus** ('49), 81, died Feb. 1. She was a member of Carrollton Avenue Church of Christ in New Orleans for 49 years and worked with her husband in their Frostop Inc. restaurant franchise until retirement. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, **Melvin** ('48); four daughters, Patricia Burke, Mary Beth Garcia, **Nancy Powell** ('78) and **Becky Finn** ('82); two sisters, **Doris Ganus** ('47) and Joan England; and six grandchildren. (3804 Ridgeway Drive, Metairie, LA 70002)

**Randy Sherrill** ('80), 46, died March 1. He is survived by his wife, Deresa; his parents, Elvis and Pat; two daughters, Amber and Jennifer; and two brothers, Scott and **Phillip** ('88). (1420 Cornflower, Sherwood, AR 72116)

**Lowell Carr** ('74), 53, died March 7 from cancer. He was a former professor in the art department at the University. He is survived by his wife, Karen; his parents, Jay and Alice; and a brother, **Glenn** ('84). (743 S. Nicholas Road, Nixa, MO 65714)

**Elaine Early Pate** ('40), 85, died March 25. She is survived by her son, **Kimball** ('64).

**Paul J. Evins** ('59), 68, died March 30. He was a minister and member of Cherokee Street Church of Christ. He is survived

by his wife of 40 years, **Judy Allison** ('64); a son, **Shawn** ('88); a daughter, Charlotte Swann; and six grandchildren. (615 McLain St., Newport, AR 72112)

**Emodean Ausburn**, 71, died April 3. She worked at the University in the cafeteria from 1981-1987. She is survived by three sons, Bobby, Michael and Eddie; two daughters, Becky Ausburn and Carolyn Howard; a sister, Nadine Humphrey; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Ira Elvin James**, 68, died April 3. He was a retired University groundskeeper and a U.S. Air Force veteran. He is survived by a son, Charles; a daughter, Elizabeth Garber; two brothers, Walter and Owen; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Melonie Hurley Wilson** ('83), 42, died April 3 from cancer. She is survived by her parents, Richard and Carole Hurley; a son, Evan; a daughter, Erin; and three brothers, **Lyndel** ('79), **Todd** ('81) and Lloyd.

**Sue Hogg O'Neal** ('50), 75, died April 9. She is survived by three daughters, **Cindy Richmond** ('74), **Terry Dean** ('76) and Kathy Dutke.

**Marian Camp McCaleb Falk** ('43), 82, died April 13. She is survived by a son, John; two daughters, Elizabeth Allen and Mary Overstreet; a brother, **H.B. Camp** ('39); a sister, **Elaine Thompson** ('41); and five grandchildren.

**Allwyn Gaston Hart** ('50), 84, died May 8. A veteran of World War II, where he served in the Army Air Corps, he was owner of Hart Auto Service. He was a member of College Church of Christ, Bison Boosters and the Civil Air Patrol. He is survived by his wife, Wanda; a son, Charles Bridgeman; three daughters, **Jenene Alexander** ('69), Cynthia Cole, and **Martha White** ('77); eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**Ronald Gene Hannah**, 62, died May 12. He was a former custodian at the University. He is survived by two daughters, Racheal and Nora Ann; three brothers, Brooks, John and Jesse; and three sisters, Ida Bell Hannah, Mary Jay and Charlene Bullock.

**Ray Phillips** ('64), 62, died May 13 from cancer. He was a member of the first football team after the University resumed intercollegiate athletics. He retired from IBM after 30 years, seven of which were spent in England and Japan. He is survived by his wife,



# EVENTS

## OCTOBER

26

ASI speaker Michael Medved

## NOVEMBER

14-17

Higher Learning  
Commission/Accreditation  
Site Team visit

21-28

Thanksgiving recess

## DECEMBER

18

Fall graduation

19-Jan. 10

Winter recess

## JANUARY

11

Spring registration

12

Classes begin

## FEBRUARY

24

ASI speaker J.C. Watts

25-26

WINGS conference

## MARCH

6-12

Spring recess

24-26

Youth Forum and  
Spring Sing

25-26

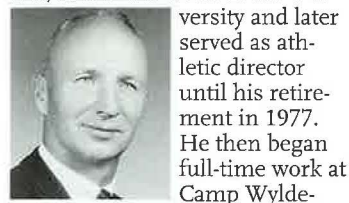
President's Council meeting

For a complete list of events  
and contact information, go to  
[www.harding.edu/calendar](http://www.harding.edu/calendar).

**Marcia Geisler** ('64); his mother, Loraine Morrow; three sons, Steven, Bryan and Robert; and two brothers, James and **Daniel** ('61). (2521 Friars Place, Cordova, TN 38016)

**Suzanne Sabourin LeCave** ('91), 36, died May 14. She was a part-time employee of A.P.M. in Norcross, Ga., and a member of the church of Christ. She is survived by her parents, Jim and Sandra Sabourin; four sons, Cody, Chandler, Dillon and Christian; and three sisters, **Michelle Cheshier** ('93), **Emilie Ogren** ('96) and Jamie Sabourin.

**Hugh M. "Coach" Groover** ('50), 75, died May 17 from an aortic aneurysm. He coached basketball, tennis and track at the University and later served as athletic director until his retirement in 1977. He then began full-time work at Camp Wyldewood. His 38-year tenure at Wyldewood ended in 1996. An avid tennis and racquetball player, he won a national racquetball tournament for his age bracket in 1990. He served as an elder at Highway Church of Christ in Judsonia and was a member of the White County Domestic Violence Prevention board, where he served as a volunteer counselor. He is survived by his wife, **Mildred Horne** ('50); two daughters, **Penny Petway** ('73) and **Dena Leasure** ('75); a brother, Bill; a sister, **Margie Wolfe** ('51); four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. (29 Harding Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)



**Gina DuShaun Altom** ('98), 34, died May 29. She was a fourth-grade teacher for the Bald Knob School District and a member of Bald Knob Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, Darrell; her parents, Billy and Donna Feagin; a son, Darrell; two daughters, Phagen and Baylea; two sisters, Jacqueline Boyce and Amanda Rogers; and her grandparents, Bill and Geneva Gwaltney and Z.L. Feagin. (P.O. Box 1001, Bald Knob, AR 72010)

**Leon Willoford Manley**, 86, died June 2. He was a former English teacher at the University. He was a World War II Navy veteran; a graduate of Pepperdine and Vanderbilt universities; and a member of the church of Christ, Memphis Area Association of Realtors, and the Kiwanis Club,

where he was a former lieutenant governor. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a son, Nolen; a daughter, Nancy Perrine; two stepsons, Norman Thomas and Robert Thomas; two stepdaughters, Catherine Maness and Elizabeth Thomas; four grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Joanna Harrelson Mayes** ('89), 36, died July 14 from cancer. She is survived by her husband, **James** ('88); her parents, Paul and Ethel

Harrelson; two sons, Garrett and Brady; a daughter, Hannah; a brother, **Jared Harrelson** ('94); and a grandmother, Grace Harrelson. (5722 Constantine Drive, Rockvale, TN 37153)

**Winston Griggs Chandler Sr.**, 84, died July 20. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. He owned and operated Chandler Trailer Convoy, a nationwide transportation company, from 1953 until 1986. He served on the Pulaski County School Board for 11 years and was a member of the President's Council, the Arkansas History Commission, Lions Club and Sons of the American Revolution. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Ouida; three sons, **Winston Jr.**, ('66), **Mike** ('70) and **Jeff** ('77); a sister, Opal Kidd Koone; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

**Buford Tucker**, 95, died July 27. He was executive director of the alumni association from 1957 until his retirement in 1976. He



was an elder at College Church of Christ for 22 years and a member of Optimist and Civitan. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Ermal Elouise; a son, **Buford B.** ('59); four grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. (801 S. Benton, #5300, Searcy, AR 72149)

**William T. Wallace** ('51), 83, died Aug. 7. He was a former assistant registrar and math instructor at the University. He was a veteran of World War II and a member of Downtown Church of Christ. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Vivian; two sons, **Paul** ('73) and **David** ('79); a daughter, **Susan Williams** ('81); and three grandchildren. (801 S. Benton, #4105, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Barbara A. "Barby" Kline Smith** ('60), 66, died Aug. 11. She and her husband, Dwight, served churches in the Northeast for 22



years and were active with Camp Manatawny, serving on the board of directors. Since 1981, she and Dwight were employed by the College Church of Christ's campus ministry program on the University campus, where she served as women's counselor. Beginning in 1990, she co-directed the International

Campaigns program with her husband. Barby was a member of College Church of Christ. She is survived by her husband, **Dwight** ('59); a daughter, **Tanya Valls** ('81); two sons, **Chuck** ('85) and **Dirk** ('86); a brother, **Jack Kline** ('63); and 10 grandchildren. (7 Baker Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

**Erle Thomas Floyd Moore**, 86, died Aug. 16. A 1942 graduate of Abilene Christian University, he received his master's in 1947 and



doctorate in 1954, both from Columbia University. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1942-1945. Named a Distinguished Teacher in 1970, he was the chairman of the music department at the University from 1950 until his retirement in 1982. He was instrumental in the construction of a building for the department, the Lee Music Center. He was a member of College Church of Christ and Searcy Lion's Club. He is survived by his daughter, **Mona Lee Garner** ('73); four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**J. Bill Harris**, 80, died Aug. 26. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1946. After his employment with Hartz Seed Co., he worked



as an underwriter for Southland Life Insurance Co. from 1964 to 1989, during which he achieved membership in the company's Million Dollar Club. Recently retired from the University's advancement office, he was a past chairman of the President's Council, president of the Bison Booster Club in 1965, general manager of the Heritage Inn from 1989-1994, and a member of the Academy Advisory Board. He was inducted into the Bison Hall of Fame in 1990 and honored in 1997 when Harding Academy's new athletic facility was named Harris Gym. He served as an elder at College Church of Christ from 1978-2003. Harris was president of the Searcy Lions Club in 1990 and served on the board of Zambia Christian College in Africa. He is survived by his wife, Lillian; two sons, **Rick** ('71) and **Kenny** ('77); two daughters, **Sandra Boaz** ('69) and **Nancy Meadows** ('79); a brother, Sam; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



# E-mails from the Far East

DR. CLIFF GANUS shares experiences from the summer 2004 Chorus tour of China, Thailand and Singapore

## OUR GROUP OF 54 ARRIVED MAY 18 IN BEIJING, AND WE WENT TO OUR

accommodations at the Central Conservatory of Music. We then shared a couple of wonderful concerts with Chinese university choirs and sang together "Jasmine flower." The response was wonderful.

A local food service provided most of our meals, a tremendous variety of Chinese food with chopsticks. They don't bring rice at the beginning of the meals, as we expect in the States. We've been eating Chinese food wrong for years!

An overnight train trip took us to Qingdao, where we performed three evening concerts at Qingdao University for a crowd of nearly 1,000 each time. We were able to interact with the audience after each concert. They responded especially well to the spirituals, "Flight of the Bumblebee," and the four Chinese songs we had learned.

On Sunday morning we had our own worship service, then visited with a large Korean church. Proselytizing, by Americans or Koreans, is not allowed, but Koreans may have their own religious groups.

I had an unusual moment just before the first Qingdao concert. Backstage, an hour before the concert, I looked at the storage area and saw some Chinese temple blocks. Then I saw some conical (rather than tub-shaped) tympani, decorative Chinese cymbals and toms. I thought to myself, "How interesting! They have a full set of Chinese percussion." This thought was followed by, "Duh! WE'RE IN CHINA!"

In Qingdao, we began to understand that the spiritual message was coming through. An American English teacher reported that some of her students were "mesmerized" by our concerts. One student said his favorite part was the spiritual half because it was about God. The teacher was then able to share the story of Jesus with them. How remarkable it is to be able to sing publicly about God in a country where it is normally forbidden.

We traveled by air from Qingdao to Wuhan, where we were hosted by Central China Normal University. After performing, we visited with Harding grads Linda Benthall ('98), Jay Calicott ('03), Katy Howard ('02), Pam Mosby ('77), Harold Romine ('54), Sara Ann Stinson ('03) and Chris Westcott ('97), who are teaching English. We also met several of their students.

Taking time to be tourists, we made a visit to the provincial museum to see the artifacts from a 2,400-year-old tomb. It was fascinating! Among the items in the tomb were a 63-piece set of musical bells and other instruments, including chimes and drums. And there was a performance on replicas of these instruments, demonstrating how they might have been played in the fifth century B.C.

The next stop was Changsha, where we visited with University graduates Mike ('03) and Julia ('03) Veigel. After the second concert there, we met with a young teacher who was looking forward to coming to a workshop at Harding this fall,

eager to learn more about the spiritual side of life.

The last city in China was Guangzhou, where we gave a joint concert with two local choruses before flying to Chiang Mai to begin our Thai week. During our four days in Chiang Mai, we gave concerts at a leprosarium and a church and visited with university students after inviting them to Christian student center activities.

However, the most remarkable thing we saw in Chiang Mai was the elephant show. The highlight of that was the elephants painting. Painting! The one I could see best painted a couple of flowers. Handed a brown brush by the trainer, he drew six converging stems. Using a green brush, he painted leaves and grass and then used red and gold brushes to produce flowers — all of this in the right place, shape and size. Unbelievable! It makes me want to study "elephant" developmental psychology.

From Chiang Mai we went to Bangkok and spent two days with Chorus alumna Samantha Allen ('91), her husband, Steve, and their mission team. We sang at a juvenile detention center and at Southeast Asia University before leaving for the last leg of our trip, Singapore.

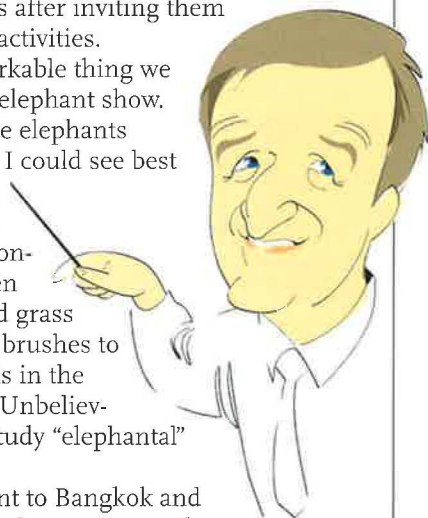
Once there, we sang at a hospice, in two parks and at two church meetings, even giving a couple of singing workshops. In both Thailand and Singapore, we appreciated being able to participate in activities more consistent with our usual Chorus campaigns, as we were hosted by local congregations and were free to publicly proclaim our faith.

As we prepare to leave, many highlights come to mind — cultural, social, musical and spiritual.

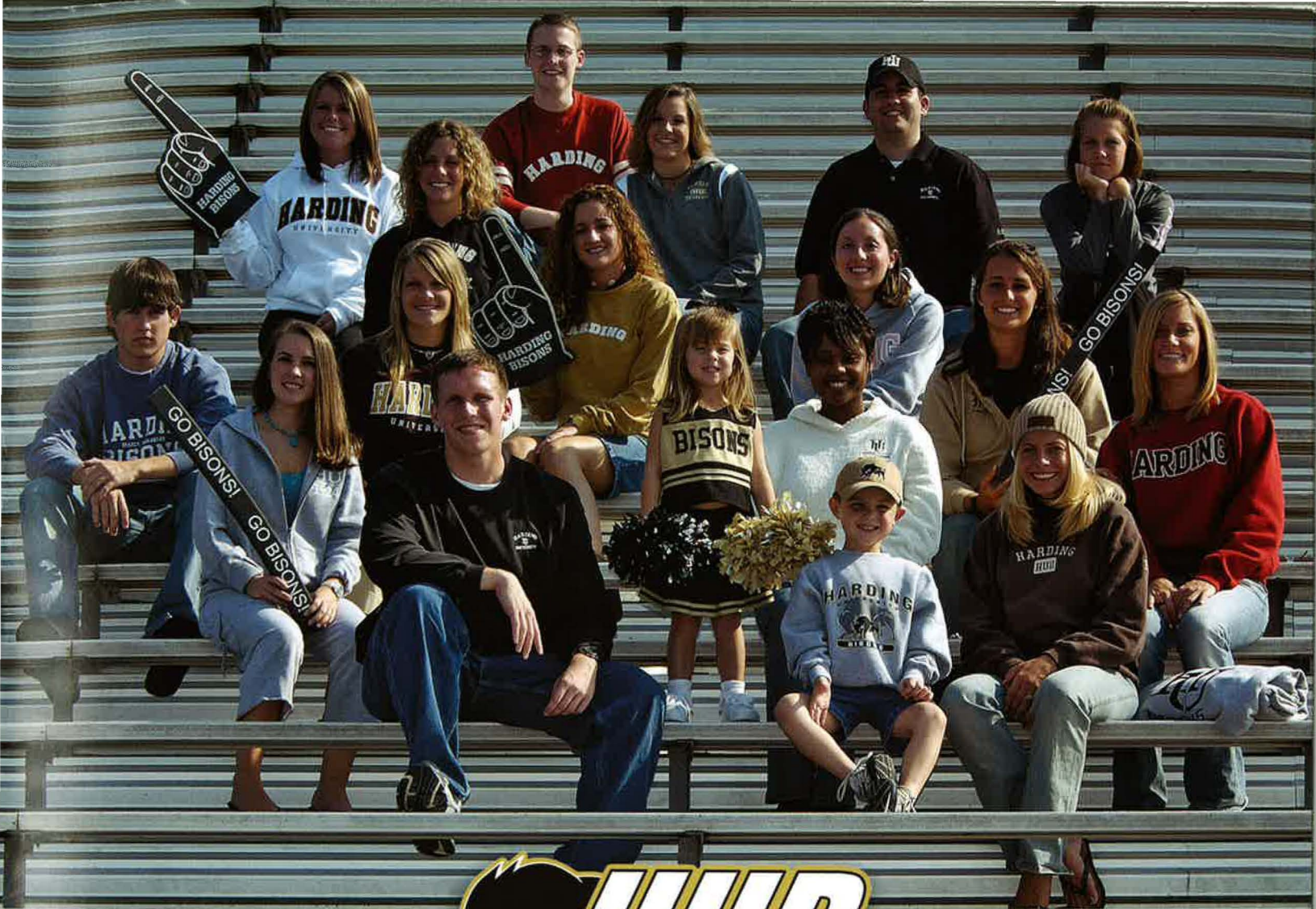
- I'm proud of the students. They sang well and were responsible and dependable. They didn't complain about the strange food, the 90-minute wait in 90-degree temperatures for the bus in Guangzhou, or the hot and crowded transportation in Chiang Mai.
- The Great Wall and the Forbidden City awed me; they're every bit as magnificent as they are claimed to be.
- I found our Chinese hosts hospitable and accommodating and our work with indigenous and solid congregations in Singapore gratifying.
- Finally, I felt that our interaction and devotionals with the missionaries in Thailand were enjoyable and effective.

We hope to go back to the Far East in four years. I'm eager! **H**

*This is CLIFF GANUS' 13th summer campaign trip with the Chorus, which he has directed 36 years.*







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# [Final Frame]

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY



Students head to Benson Auditorium for chapel on one of the first days of the fall semester.



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